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COUNTRY LIFE

VOL. XCV. No. 2472

JUNE 2, 1944

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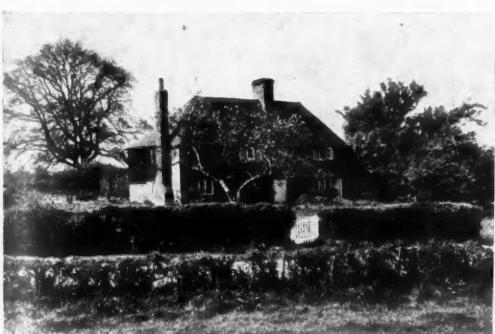
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POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

PRICE ASKED £5,750

Joint Sole Agents: BRUTON KNOWLES & CO., Albion Chambers, King Street, Gloucester, and JACKSON STOPS, Castle Street, Cirencester.

DELIGHTFUL SITUATION—COTSWOLD MARKET TOWN

GEORGIAN TYPE RESIDENCE

THOROUGHLY MODERNISED.

Lounge, 2 reception rooms, 4 principal and 3 secondary bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

HEATED THROUGHOUT.

MAIN ELECTRICITY, WATER, GAS AND DRAINAGE.

REALLY CHARMING SMALL GROUNDS AND PADDOCK.

GARAGES.

IN ALL NEARLY 3 ACRES

NOW LET ON YEARLY TENANCY AT £200 PER ANNUM TO EXCELLENT TENANT.

PRICE ASKED £7,500

(Ref. 7571.)



WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1

WEST SUSSEX

Standing on rising ground in the centre of small, well-timbered Park, with views of Chandonbury Ring.

A FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE



comprising STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE of the MANOR HOUSE TYPE with HORSHAM STONE ROOF

completely modernised and containing 9 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, compact domestic offices on the ground floor. Electric light. Central heating. Stabling. Garage.

ATTRACTIVE PLEASURE GROUNDS. KITCHEN GARDEN. IN ALL ABOUT

100 ACRES

POSSESSION AFTER THE WAR

Agents: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, W.1.

SURREY

FOR SALE A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF 21 ACRES

WITH VERY PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER THROUGHOUT.

Stands on high ground with south aspect.

The house contains hall, dining room, drawing room, morning room, smoke room; complete domestic offices, and includes servants' hall, pantry and bedroom. ABOVE approached by two staircases: 12 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms. Fitted basins (h. & c.) in all bedrooms.

AGA COOKER. FRIGIDAIRE. WATER SOFTENER. MAIN ELECTRICITY, GAS AND COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING. MAIN DRAINAGE. STABLE AND GARAGE. 2 COTTAGES. LODGE.

THE GROUNDS ARE WELL MATURED AND AFFORD PLENTY OF SHADE. PRETTY FLOWER GARDEN. 2 GRASS TENNIS COURTS. VERY LARGE SWIMMING BATH AND GOOD KITCHEN GARDEN, THE WHOLE PROPERTY EXTENDS TO ABOUT

21 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, WITH POSSESSION

Apply: WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon Street, Mayfair, London, W.1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

EAST SUSSEX

Between Tunbridge Wells and Hastings. London 55 miles. 2½ miles Main Line Station.
IN A DELIGHTFUL UNSPOILT PART OF THE COUNTRY

A RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL & SPORTING ESTATE, ABOUT 566 ACRES

including a most attractive Residence (Sussex Farmhouse style) which is in first-rate order and upon which considerable sums of money have been spent.

Entrance and inner halls, 2 reception rooms and sun parlour, 9 principal and 4 secondary or servants' bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. H. and c. basins in all bedrooms.

Central heating. Electric light. Good water supply. Stabling and Garage accommodation. Excellent Home Farm (in hand) with first-rate buildings.

GROUND AND GARDENS laid out in terraces. Large swimming pool. Water garden with miniature chain of lakes LAKE OF ABOUT 4 ACRES STOCKED WITH TROUT.

SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE and FIVE COTTAGES in hand, and one let off.

Some 300 acres of woodland affording an excellent little shoot.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY AS A WHOLE

Full particulars of the joint Sole Agents:

Messrs. GEERING & COLYER, Hawkhurst, Kent, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1. (40,448)

BETWEEN READING AND WOKINGHAM

1½ miles from Winnersh Halt (S.R.), Reading Line.

A CAPITAL FREEHOLD FARM INVESTMENT AND VALUABLE BUILDING FRONTAGE

DUNT LANE FARM, 165 ACRES

Long frontages to Dunt Lane and Davies Street between Twyford and Arborfield, about 1½ miles from Wokingham Road, mid-way between Reading and Wokingham.

COMFORTABLE OLD-FASHIONED FARM-HOUSE 3 reception, 6 bed, bathroom, main water and electricity. Useful range of farm buildings with modern cow-house for 31.

Stabling, barn, granary, cart and implement shed, cooling and sterilising rooms, piggeries and loose boxes.



Two half-timbered cottages.

Main water supply. Several enclosures of productive arable and pasture, the latter fed by natural water supply and having extensive frontage to Davies Street (Twyford Road) with main services.

The Farm and about 156 acres are let on a yearly Michaelmas tenancy at a rent of £221 16s. per annum. Possession of part of the building frontage could be obtained at short notice.

TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY AUCTION IN THREE LOTS, LOCALLY, AT AN EARLY DATE (unless previously sold privately).

Solicitors: Messrs. Allen & Overy, 3, Finch Lane, E.C.3. Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W.1.

Particulars and Plan price 1s.

Mayfair 3771
(10 lines)

Telegrams: Galleries, Weso, London

Reading 4441
Regent 0293/3377

NICHOLAS

(Established 1882)

1. STATION ROAD, READING ; 4, ALBANY COURT YARD, PICCADILLY W.1

Telegrams:
"Nicholas, Reading"
"Nichener, Piccy, London"

AUCTION SALE OF TWO GENTLEMAN'S ATTRACTIVE FARMS. BOTH WITH VACANT POSSESSION BOTH TO INCLUDE THE VALUABLE GROWING CROPS

MACKNEY COURT FARM,

NEAR WALLINGFORD

17 miles from Reading, 14 from Oxford.

296 ACRES

TO INCLUDE THE GROWING CROPS

VERY PLEASING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

Commodious buildings. 6 Cottages.

RECOGNISED AS ONE OF THE BEST FARMS IN THIS WELL-KNOWN AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

DATE OF AUCTION, JUNE 9, 1944

Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading.

HAM FARM, BAUGHURST

Between Reading, Newbury and Basingstoke.

242 ACRES

To include the Growing Crops, Tuberculin-Tested Dairy Herd of 57 head, and the Dead Stock.

QUEEN ANNE FARMHOUSE

Buildings and 3 Cottages.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION or can be deferred to September.

DATE OF AUCTION, JUNE 9, 1944

Auctioneers: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading; and Messrs. SIMMONS AND SONS, 12, Station Road, Reading.

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SACKVILLE HOUSE, 40, PICCADILLY, W.1

Regent 2481

ASHRIDGE PARK, HERTS

Glorious position adjacent thousands of acres National Trust Land.



A DREAM HOUSE IN A LOVELY GARDEN



DORKING. Glorious views over Boxhill and Ranmoor. EXCEPTIONALLY PICTURESQUE MODERN RESIDENCE IN COTTAGE STYLE with mellowed red-tiled roof, casement windows, gables and chimney stacks of Elizabethan elegance (2 good reception, 4 large bedrooms (2 with wash basins), beautifully fitted bathroom, loggia. All mains, radiators. Large garage. Exquisite gardens with hard tennis court. 1 ACRE. FREEHOLD. £27,550. Early possession.—F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel: Regent 2481.

FARNHAM AND GUILDFORD

Panoramic views for 30 miles, near Hog's Back.



AN ELIZABETHAN STYLE RESIDENCE in good order; 3 fine reception rooms, 8-10 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Cottage. Garage. Walled kitchen gardens. Specimen trees and shrubs, hundreds of rare plants, orchard and paddock. 18 ACRES. FREEHOLD £11,500. Post-war occupation.—Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel: Regent 2481.

A HISTORIC OLD HOUSE dating from Saxon and Tudor times. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Old Tithe Barn. Garage. Old world gardens, orchard and paddock. 4 ACRES. Possession. FREEHOLD, just available.—Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & CO., Sackville House, 40, Piccadilly, W.1. (Entrance in Sackville Street.) Tel: Regent 2481.



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1
Regent 8222 (15 lines)
Telegrams: "Selanet, Piccy, London"



NORTH DEVON

On the outskirts of Ilfracombe.

FOR SALE. A MANOR HOUSE
IN FINELY TIMBERED AND SECLUDED GROUNDS



PRICE £7,850 FREEHOLD

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)
(C.41,289a)

HERTS (16 MILES FROM TOWN)

DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE REDUCED TO A MINIMUM
Last word in modern construction.

DELIGHTFUL RESIDENCE
Backing on to Golf Course.



PRICE FREEHOLD £12,000 (substantially under cost)

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)
(R.2172)

OCCUPYING A DELIGHTFUL RURAL POSITION

ESSEX

3 miles from Chelmsford, 50 minutes from Town.

CHARMING ELIZABETHAN-STYLE RESIDENCE

(facing South)



Recommended by the Joint Agents: Messrs. STRUTT & PARKER, 2, High Street, Chelmsford (Tel.: Chelmsford 3523); and HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1 (Tel.: REG. 8222.)
(M.45,762)

By order of Executors.

SURREY

Premier position on St. George's Hill. Superb and extensive views. Main line fast trains (30 minutes).

FINE EXAMPLE OF A MODERN, LUXURIOUSLY FITTED AND LABOUR-SAVING HOUSE

Hall; lounge, 33 ft. x 19 ft.; 2 other charming reception rooms, sun room, 8 bedrooms (fitted basins), 4 bathrooms.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING. 2 LODGES. GARAGES.

MAGNIFICENT GROUNDS SWIMMING POOL, ROCKERIES, WALLED KITCHEN GARDEN, NATURAL WOODLAND, in all about 7 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD ON APPLICATION
A REALLY LOVELY HOME

HIGH. SANDY SOIL. SUNNY ASPECT.

Further particulars from Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)
(S.43,986)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON, S.W.19

RURAL ESSEX

On the edge of a Public School village, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from station, 4 miles Dunmow, 10 miles Chelmsford, 6 miles Braintree.

PICTURESQUE XVIth CENTURY RESIDENCE MODERNISED AND IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

Lounge 31 ft. by 15 ft., 2 reception rooms, 5 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom. Good offices.

All main services. Central heating. Outbuildings.

GARAGE

CHARMING GARDEN. LARGE ORCHARD IN FULL BEARING.

IN ALL ABOUT

7 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,000

A further 6 Acres can be had if required.

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. Tel.: REG. 8222. (M.45,763)

BERKS. SUNNINGHILL AREA

1½ miles from Sunningdale and Ascot Stations and within easy access of several noted Golf Courses.

COMMODIOUS GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

4 reception rooms, 15 bed and dressing rooms, 6 bathrooms, etc. All public services. Central heating.

BUNGALOW LODGE

Cottage. Stabling.

Garage with rooms for men. Well-established grounds, 2 hard tennis courts, walled kitchen garden, orchards, wood and grass-land. In all over

20 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

AT PRESENT LET FURNISHED SUBJECT TO 6 MONTHS' NOTICE

Particulars from: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

COTSWOLD MANOR HOUSE

650 feet up with a lovely view.

FOR SALE TOGETHER WITH ABOUT 69 ACRES

9 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 sitting rooms. Central heating.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

GAS. STABLING.

GARAGES.

2 COTTAGES

PRICE FREEHOLD
£8,500

The whole property is in First-Class Order



Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel.: REG. 8222.)

HATFIELD DISTRICT

$\frac{1}{4}$ mile from Main Line Station

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, NICELY SITUATED RESIDENCE Adjoining Golf Course

Hall, large drawing and dining rooms, morning room, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. All main services and partial central heating.

GROUNDS ABOUT

2 ACRES

WITH KITCHEN AND FRUIT GARDEN, ORCHARD, SPINNEY, MEADOW, etc.

SPACIOUS GARAGE AND MAN'S ROOM

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, LTD., 6, Arlington Street, S.W.1. Tel.: REG. 8222.

(WIM. 0081).

BISHOP'S STORTFORD (243).

Regent
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

28b, ALBEMARLE ST.,
PICCADILLY, W.1

BUCKS

Between Aylesbury and Buckingham, convenient for Main Line Station to London
Sheltered situation in rural country—For Sale
AN UP-TO-DATE COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER



Main electricity and water. Central heating.
Lounge hall, 3 reception, dozen bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Hunter Stabling. Farmery. 3 Cottages.

Very Pleasant Gardens. Excellent Pasture.

Hard Tennis Court. Squash Court.

24 ACRES

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER. Inspected and highly recommended. (16,730)

HANTS (near Winchester)

Occupying a magnificent position commanding glorious views to the south and south-east.
A DELIGHTFUL SMALL ESTATE WITH A SPLENDIDLY APPOINTED RESIDENCE

Fine lounge (40ft. by 21ft.), 3 other reception rooms, 11 bedrooms (all fitted basins), 4 baths.

Co.'s electricity, gas and water. Central heating.
Farm Buildings, Lodge, 2 Cottages, Garage.

Pretty pleasure gardens, hard tennis court, partly walled kitchen garden, parklands, woodland, farmland, etc., in all

ABOUT 215 ACRES

Note.—The lodge, park and land are let.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,479)

LOVELY PART OF DEVONSHIRE

700 ft. up, in a glorious position on the borders of Dartmoor, close to a picturesque old village.

SPLENDIDLY APPOINTED TUDOR STYLE HOUSE DESIGNED BY AN EMINENT ARCHITECT

Hall, 5 reception rooms, 15 bedrooms, 5 baths.

Main electricity. Central heating. First-class water Supply. Lodge. 3 Cottages. Stabling. Farm Buildings.

Beautiful well-wooded gardens, excellent pasture, arable and woodland, in all **ABOUT 300 ACRES**.
2 miles of Fishing in River Teign.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,121)

EAST SUSSEX

Beautifully situated some 400 feet up, commanding panoramic views of the Downs and Sea.

LOVELY OLD ELIZABETHAN HOUSE Brought to Modern Standards of Comfort and Luxury



4 reception, 11 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms.

Main Electricity. Central Heating. First-class Water Supply. Garage for 6 cars.

Delightful well-maintained gardens, including kitchen garden, soft fruit, fully stocked orchards, En Tout Cas Tennis Court, Magnificent Swimming Pool.

Pasture and Arable. In all

NEARLY 28 ACRES

More Land Available if Required

PRICE FREEHOLD £11,000

Would be Sold Fully Furnished

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (17,475)

5, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1

CURTIS & HENSON

Grosvenor 3131 (3 lines)
Established 1875

IN A BEAUTIFUL DARTMOOR VALLEY

Short motoring distance of the sea. Near old-world village.

GEORGIAN MANOR HOUSE
IN A SHELTERED POSITION

3 RECEPTION ROOMS.

9 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS.

3 BATHROOMS.

EXCELLENT DOMESTIC OFFICES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT

CENTRAL HEATING

Strongly recommended by CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W.1. (16,484)

44, ST. JAMES'S
PLACE, S.W.1

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

AGENTS FOR THE HOME COUNTIES, THE SHIRES, AND SPORTING COUNTIES GENERALLY

Regent
0911

By Order of the Estate Owner. PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF SALE OF THE

LAGHAM MANOR ESTATE, SOUTH GODSTONE, SURREY

Including the SMALL PERIOD RESIDENCE LAGHAM MANOR

containing 4 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms (several rooms being completely panelled in old oak). Garage and cottage, pleasure grounds, kitchen garden, the ancient moat and pasture land. In all about

11½ ACRES, now requisitioned

LAGHAM PARK FARM, 203½ ACRES
OLD HALL FARM, 67 ACRES

POSTERN GATE FARM, 100 ACRES

LAGHAM LODGE FARM, 102½ ACRES

ALL LET ON ANNUAL TENANCIES

BYWELL HOUSE, OUTBUILDINGS AND PADDOCKS. IN ALL ABOUT 1½ ACRES
LET ON LEASE. 2 COTTAGES AT CROWHURST LANE END

The whole comprising about 487 ACRES, producing a rent roll of about £919 per annum and which will be OFFERED by AUCTION in JUNE as a WHOLE or in LOTS if not previously Sold by Private Treaty.

Particulars (price 2/6 each) in course of preparation, may in due course be obtained from the Solicitors to the Vendor: Messrs. ROYDS, RAWSTORNE & Co., of 46, Bedford Square, W.C.1; or from the Auctioneers: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1.

COTSWOLD HILLS

Under 10 miles from Cheltenham. 2 miles excellent market (bus services to both centres).

For SALE FREEHOLD, with Early Vacant Possession of Farmhouse, nearly 95 ACRES (in hand), 2 SETS OF GOOD BUILDINGS, SUPERIOR COTTAGE. ALL LIVE AND DEAD STOCK AND GROWING CROPS INCLUDED

STONE-BUILT AND TILED RESIDENCE IN FIRST-RATE DECORATIVE ORDER. Near a lovely village in one of the prettiest parts of the Cotswold Hills

The RESIDENCE contains 2 sitting rooms, 4 bedrooms and excellent bathroom. Independent hot water. Plenty of Main electricity in village. Telephone connected. 2 sets of stone-built farm buildings in fine condition including fitted dairy and barns.

SUPERIOR COTTAGE of 3 bedrooms

LAND of nearly 95 ACRES (26 clean Arable), remainder well-timbered pasture.

Water laid on everywhere.

EARLY VACANT POSSESSION GIVEN

The cottage is let, but arrangements could probably be made for vacant possession of this also.

A very Moderate Price accepted for Quick Sale. Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents: JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James's Place, London, S.W.1. (L.F.15,890)

TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W.1
(Euston 7000)

MAPLE & Co., LTD.

5, GRAFTON ST., MAYFAIR, W.1
(Regent 4685)

VALUATIONS

FURNITURE and EFFECTS

Valued for Insurance, Probate, etc.

FURNITURE SALES

Conducted in Town and Country

APPLY—MAPLE & CO., 5, GRAFTON STREET,
OLD BOND STREET, W.1

"THE LOGS"

facing Hampstead Heath.

THIS HIGHLY IMPORTANT FREEHOLD PROPERTY, occupying an island site, the greater part of which is walled in. A commanding mansion with 15 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fine suite of ground floor reception rooms. Non-basement, domestic offices. Central heating. Electric light and power. BEAUTIFULLY LAID OUT GARDEN WITH RANGE OF GLASS HOUSES, ETC. FINE GARAGE and RESIDENTIAL FLAT. In all over 1 ACRE.

VACANT POSSESSION (except Garage now requisitioned) on completion.

Auctioneers: MAPLE & CO., LTD., as above.

Within 12 miles of the West End and City.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD
A MOST ATTRACTIVE HOUSE

Very well built and with modern comforts, situate in very fine grounds extending to about

1½ ACRES

Accommodation includes: Lounge hall, 3 nice reception rooms, billiard room, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Large garage. Garden laid out by landscape gardener, fine rockery, lawns, kitchen garden, greenhouses.

Small piece of Woodland.

Recommended by MAPLE & CO., as above.

Grosvenor 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.1

Hebert Place, Eaton Sq.,
68, Victoria St.,
Westminster, S.W.1.

A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE MODERNISED TUDOR RESIDENCE IN WEST SUSSEX



London 35 miles. Sussex Coast 15 miles.
3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom.
Model domestic offices.

Main electric light and power. Main water.
Modern drainage.

Close bus stop.

GARAGE AND WORKSHOP.
ALL NEWLY DECORATED AND IN
EXCELLENT ORDER.PRETTY OLD-WORLD GARDENS SURROUND
THE RESIDENCE AND INCLUDE LAWNS,
LILY POND, OLD WELL, FLOWERING
SHRUBS, KITCHEN GARDENS AND FRUIT
TREES, USEFUL PADDOCK.

IN ALL ABOUT 3 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION IN SEPTEMBER NEXT

All particulars of the Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

(C.20-3)

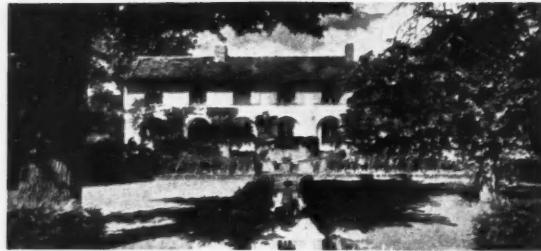
3, MOUNT ST.,
LONDON, W.1.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Grosvenor
1032-33IN A VERDANT CORNER OF THE FAMOUS CHILTERN HUNDREDS
WHERE BEECH-CLAD BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MARCHES IN LINE WITH THE VENERABLE
OAKS OF HERTFORDSHIRE

400 feet above sea level. Light soil. Only 20 miles from London by road.

THIS SOMEWHAT UNIQUE HOUSE OF EXTRAORDINARY and PECULIAR CHARM

ABOUT FIVE ACRES. JUST PLACED IN SALE MARKET
WITH OR WITHOUT THE VERY VALUABLE CONTENTSEACH OF THESE PROPERTIES HAS BEEN INSPECTED PERSONALLY AND IS CONFIDENTLY RECOMMENDED BY THE OWNER'S
AGENTS: RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFUL BUCKLEBURY COMMON, on the Hills between Newbury and Reading. Close to bus services. VERY FINE GEORGIAN (COPY) RED BRICK HOUSE. Not overlooked in any way: long drive, 4 reception, 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Main electricity and water. Central heating everywhere. Garages. Picturesque cottage. Lovely gardens. Thriving woodland. Hard court. Swimming pool. Pasture and arable. ABOUT 50 ACRES. Unexpectedly for sale with possession.

ONLY A STONE'S THROW FROM CHELSEA EMBANKMENT. Glimpses of the River. Distinctive small Georgian-style House (one of four), erected a few years ago. 2 large reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Town services. Heating. Beautifully fitted throughout. Small paved garden with prolific cherry tree. FREEHOLD £5,000.

CONVENIENT FOR WINDSOR AND THE GREAT PARK. A REALLY PICTURESQUE LONG, LOW HOUSE OF CHARACTER. In perfect state of repair. Long drive. 3 Large reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Town services. Heating. Beautifully fitted throughout. Small paved garden with prolific cherry tree. FREEHOLD £5,000.

FOR WINDSOR AND THE GREAT PARK. A REALLY PICTURESQUE LONG, LOW HOUSE OF CHARACTER. In perfect state of repair. Long drive. 3 Large reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Town services. Heating. Beautifully fitted throughout. Small paved garden with prolific cherry tree. FREEHOLD £5,000.

LONDON, CAMBRIDGE

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS
STOWMARKET

(Tel.: 384-5.)

NORWICH, HADLEIGH

AUCTION SALES OF SUFFOLK AND NORFOLK FARMS

AT IPSWICH—JUNE 20

For the Hon. Mrs. M. Bowman-Vaughan.

THE LAUREL FARM, STONHAM ASPAL, 7 miles from Stowmarket. In the village, a very ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL DAIRY HOLDING. Excellent House, 2 sets of Premises, 3 cottages. Main water and electricity. 168½ ACRES. Let at £334 per annum. A really sound Investment proposition.

Solicitors: Messrs. Hyman Isaac Lewis & Mills,
Audrey House, Ely Place, London, E.C.1.

For the Executors of J. R. Davies.

THE FASBOURNE HALL ESTATE, near STOWMARKET. 2 PRODUCTIVE HOLDINGS—The Hall and Park Farms, extending to 288 ACRES. Let at rentals amounting to £300 per annum. Lucrative investment.

Solicitors: Messrs. Cartwright, Cunningham, Haselgrave & Co.,
Walthamstow, London, E.17

For Mr. F. Moyes, retiring.

WOOD FARM, HEMINGSTONE, near IPSWICH. A HIGHLY DESIRABLE STOCK FARM of 99 ACRES. Splendid homestead. Main water. Long road frontages. Land suitable for Fruit and Market Garden Crops. Possession October 11 next.

Solicitors: Messrs. Jackman Sons & Smith, 37, Silent Street, Ipswich.

AT DISS in June.

For Mr. E. J. Steggles, retiring.
THE ROYDON ESTATE, near DISS, NORFOLK. 5 EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE SMALL FARMS, comprising "Poplar," "Sturgeons," "Boyces" and "Stolleries" Farms, Roydon, and "Furze Farm," Winfarthing, 50 to 88 acres. Two with POSSESSION October 11 next. Extending in all to 240 ACRES. In LOTS.

Solicitors: Messrs. Lyns, Burne & Lyns, Diss.

Descriptive Particulars may be obtained on request from the Auctioneers as above, or the respective Solicitors.



ROEHAMPTON

Adjoining Heath and Common.

FOR SALE
CHARMING RESIDENCE

beautifully appointed and maintained regardless of expense, containing 3 reception rooms, full-sized billiards room, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Garage for 2 cars. Main services. Secluded garden.

OWNER, 1, Fairacres,
Roehampton Lane, S.W.15
(Prospect 6180).

AT BURY ST. EDMUNDS—JUNE 21

For the Executors of Robert Hulley.

BRIDGE FARM, TOSTOCK. Midway on the main road between Stowmarket and Bury. The highly attractive DAIRY FARM of 75 ACRES. First-rate Homestead, 2 Cottages. POSSESSION next Michaelmas.

Solicitors: Messrs. Beaumont & Son, Coggeshall, Essex.

For Mr. F. W. Barker.

GREEN FARM, FINNINGHAM. Between Stowmarket and Diss. 200 ACRES. MIXED FARM with fine old Elizabethan Residence. Good buildings, main electricity. POSSESSION next Michaelmas.

Solicitors: Messrs. Banks, Ashton & Co., Bury St. Edmunds.

For Mrs. A. M. Blackler.

HAYDON FARM, NORTON. Between Bury St. Edmunds and Stowmarket. A VERY WELL-SITUATED and HIGHLY FARMED HOLDING of 70 ACRES. Residence, Farm Premises, 2 Cottages. POSSESSION at October 11 next.

Solicitors: Messrs. E. Leeds Smith & Co., Sandy, Beds.

SANDPITS FARM, WALSHAM-LE-WILLOWS. In the Bury-Stowmarket-Diss Triangle. An ATTRACTIVE SMALL HOLDING of 18½ ACRES with House and Premises and POSSESSION on completion.

Solicitors: Messrs. Gudgeon, Peacock & Prentice, Stowmarket.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley St., W.1

Grosvenor 2861.

Telegrams: "Cornishmen, London."

NORTH WILTS. Outskirts old town (G.W.R.), 450 ft. up, South aspect. Substantially built Residence in Elizabethan style, 2 carriage drives; lounge, hall, billiards room, 3 reception, 3 bathrooms, 13 bedrooms. All main services, central heating, telephone. Garage, stabling, 2 cottages, farmery, pleasure gardens, kitchen garden, orchards and pastures (some now under cultivation).—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

176 ACRES. DAIRY AND STOCK FARM. Attractive Residence, sheltered position, sunny aspect; hall, 3 reception with parquet floors, bathroom, 6 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), own electric light, telephone, central heating, 2 COTTAGES. Garage, substantial farm buildings including Accredited cowhouse for 30. Gardens, orchard, 26 acres woodland, remainder pasture and arable. Intersected by stream. Possession Michaelmas, or earlier by arrangement. £6,750 FREEHOLD.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

SOUTH DEVON. Good bus service passes, 4 miles Exeter, 350 ft. above sea level. Attractive Residence, sheltered position, sunny aspect; hall, 3 reception with

2 COTTAGES. Garage, substantial farm buildings including Accredited cowhouse for 30. Gardens, orchard, 26 acres woodland, remainder pasture and arable. Intersected by stream. Possession Michaelmas, or earlier by arrangement. £6,750 FREEHOLD.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

DORSET. £3,500. Possession August. Four miles Templecombe, Wincanton and Gillingham. SMALL VILLAGE HOUSE, 3 reception, bathroom, 5 bedrooms (fitted basins). Main water and electricity. Garage, etc. Garden and orchard 1 ACRE.—TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Weede,
London."

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Mayfair 6341
(10 lines)



OXON-GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDERS

Midway between Cirencester and Oxford. Oxford 20 miles.

LOVELY OLD STONE-BUILT COTSWOLD MANOR TYPE HOUSE

CAREFULLY ADDED TO AND MODERNISED.

Entrance hall, panelled library and 3 reception rooms, 10 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, very good offices. Main electric light, water supply from spring. Septic tank drainage. Well-built and extensive outbuildings. Heated garage for 7 cars. Large barn, stable, etc.

EXCELLENT COTTAGE WITH BATHROOM AND ELECTRIC LIGHT. THE GARDEN IS PARTLY SURROUNDED BY AN OLD MOAT. WATER GARDEN WITH SMALL STREAM, ROSE GARDEN, HARD TENNIS COURT, GOOD VEGETABLE GARDEN WITH FRUIT WALL, TOGETHER WITH GRASSLAND.

ABOUT 12 ACRES IN ALL

FOR SALE SUBJECT TO THE PRESENT REQUISITION BY THE W.L.A.
HUNTING WITH THE V.W.H.

Further particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1, (51,994)

By direction of the Executors of the late Sir Arthur Wilmot, deceased.

ALRESFORD GRANGE ESTATE, Nr. COLCHESTER, ESSEX

Alresford Station 1½ miles, Wivenhoe 2, Colchester 5, London 70 minutes by fast train.

COMFORTABLE FAMILY RESIDENCE

erected about 40 years ago on the N.E. bank of the River Colne, the house faces South, stands on gravel sub-soil.

Approached by a private road with carriage drive with lodge, it contains entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, 3 reception rooms, complete offices, etc.; 11 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT. PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY. CENTRAL HEATING. Delightful natural garden with woodland and hard tennis court, kitchen garden, outbuildings of garage, workshop, 4 loose boxes, fine squash court with gallery and cloakroom. In all about

25 ACRES PRICE £6,000, SUBJECT TO REQUISITION

Or, together with ADJOINING DAIRY AND MIXED FARM with comfortable farm-house, farm buildings, 5 cottages and 172 acres of land, including valuable grazing marshes, woodland, orchard, etc. Total area about

206 ACRES FOR SALE, PRICE £10,000 No Land Tax or Tithe

Further particulars of the joint Sole Agents: Messrs. C. M. STANFORD & SON, 23, High Street, Colchester; or JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1



FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.

(Established 1799)

AUCTIONEERS. CHARTERED SURVEYORS. LAND AGENTS.
29, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4

Telegrams:
Farebrother, London

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Convenient for Station. London 23 miles.



MOST ATTRACTIVE GARDENS

affording ample protection.

The whole extending to about

3½ ACRES

Present Lease expires Michaelmas, 1944

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

£9,000 (subject to Contract)

Further particulars from Owner's Agents: FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO., 29, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Central 9344/5/6/7.

184, BROMPTON ROAD,
LONDON, S.W.3

FFW MILES TAUNTON
ATTRACTIVE
RESIDENTIAL FARM
QUITE NEAR SMALL MARKET
TOWN

Nearly 90 ACRES really good land (60 acres grass with stream through). VERY NICE HOUSE, excellent views, 3 reception, 10 bedrooms. Bath. Good water and light. Splendid range of stone buildings. £8,000 or near. Vacant possession. Unusually attractive estate.

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY,
184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152.)

BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY

Kensington
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GENTLEMAN'S HIGH-CLASS
OXFORDSHIRE FARM
FAVOURITE PART HEYTHROP
COUNTRY
NEARLY 450 ACRES

highly-cultivated lands. Superior stone-built residence in excellent position with beautiful views, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bath; electric light, etc. Excellent buildings. Bailiff's house and cottages.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD AT
REASONABLE PRICE
with immediate possession. Recommended.
BENTALL, HORSLEY & BALDRY,
184, Brompton Road, S.W.3. (Ken. 0152.)

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN SAY 100 YEARS AGO
That is to say, the peaceful setting it holds, near to a picturesque "time lost" little village only 35 miles from London, amidst Surrey's beautiful scenery but away from all the built-upness generally associated within so easy mileage of Town. A truly lovely small house of character, partly the 16th century, most easily run, in perfect order, some £3,000 having been expended in permanent improvements. Facing south and entered through a porch is the lounge hall with oak beams and large open fireplace. Delightful dining and drawing rooms (in the same character). The domestic part so well arranged, includes a large, light kitchen with "Aga" and other modern equipment, etc. On the first floor, approached by principal and secondary staircases and leading off an attractive oak beamed corridor, one finds 5 very charming bedrooms, mostly with deep fitted wardrobe cupboards, and in the house are two modern bathrooms. Warming the house, apart, of course, from the usual fireplaces, is by complete central heating. There is also main water and main electric light. The approach to this most picturesque little domain is by a drive. There is also a pretty cottage and very nice old world gardens, giving just that setting, and the rest, apart from garage and farmery, comprises about 30 ACRES, mostly pasture. It belongs to a lady who, for family reasons, is now going to Devonshire, and she parts with this really lovely home with great reluctance. Possession will be given in September. The property is freehold, and the price asked is £10,000.

23, MOUNT ST.,
GROSVENOR SQ., LONDON, W.1

WEST SURREY BORDER

Lovely position, an hour from London



BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM. In perfect order, with every comfort and convenience. 13 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 reception. Garages, 3 cottages. Lovely gardens, pasture and woodland. At present let. Possession after the war.

40 ACRES FOR SALE.

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

AN UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY 60 MILES LONDON

Really delightful home—very large profits.

A QUITE EXCEPTIONAL FARM about 500 ACRES including some of the best land in the country and growing enormous crops of corn, fruit and vegetables, etc.; all in the pink of condition; very attractive medium-sized Residence in delightful position with main services and modern conveniences; excellent buildings with accredited cowhouse; Foreman's House and other Cottages. **FREEHOLD £223,000.** Highly recommended.

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

KENT. Close Bickley Station, 25 minutes Town. **IDEAL FAMILY RESIDENCE,** 3 reception, 8 principal bed and dressing rooms, 4 other, 2 bathrooms, maids' sitting; all mains, central heating. Delightful Grounds 3 ACRES with Plunge and Miniature Golf Course, Entrance Lodge, Double Garage with Flat. Early possession. **FREEHOLD £7,000.**

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

BEAUTIFUL RURAL HOME 50 MILES LONDON

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL AND MONEY-MAKING FARM, nearly 150 ACRES. Charming OLD STUART RESIDENCE WITH MODERN CONVENiences. Main electric light and heating and a wealth of old oak. Ample Buildings; Cottages. Price **FREEHOLD £10,000,** including highly valuable stock, equipment and crops, with possession.

WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

WILSON & CO.

Grosvenor
1441

LOVELY PART OF SUSSEX



EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY TO BUY at a low price, with post-war possession, an exquisitely appointed **HOUSE OF EXCEPTIONAL CHARACTER**, and set within perfect old-world gardens; all in first-rate order and well maintained. 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 panelled reception rooms. Small farm, meadows and woods. Several cottages. Main services. **60 ACRES OR LESS.**

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

SUSSEX, NEAR LEWES



SINGULARLY CHARMING SMALL ESTATE enjoying perfect seclusion in lovely country. 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception. Main electricity. Stabling. Garage. Small farmery. 6 Cottages. Delightful gardens. Woodland with large Lake and pasture land.

FOR SALE WITH 40 ACRES

Post-war Possession.

Agents: WILSON & CO., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
Mayfair 5411

ONE OF THE CHOICEST SMALL RESIDENTIAL ESTATES ON OFFER.

90 minutes London. Beautiful unspoilt Country. **SUSSEX** (near Station with fast service). **BEAUTIFUL OLD GEORGIAN RESIDENCE** in picked position amid well-timbered park and grounds; 4 reception, 9 principal and 4 servants' bedrooms, 6 bathrooms; every modern convenience and main services; excellent Buildings; beautiful Grounds; prolific kitchen gardens; everything in perfect condition; farmery; 5 Cottages and **180 ACRES** (156 rich pasture and marshes with trout river). Just inspected. Full details and price of owner's agents: MESSRS. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Under 2 miles station, close bus. Elevated situation, open surroundings. **CHOICE SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE,** 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large playroom. All mains. Garage for 3 cars. Really delightful Gardens 2 acres. Early possession. **FREEHOLD £5,750** or offer. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

COUNTRY HOUSE WANTED

BUYER SEEKS, within 45 miles London in BERKS, SURREY, SUSSEX, HANTS, OXON, preferably **GEORGIAN RESIDENCE**, about 7 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2/3 bathrooms, well fitted, 5/15 acres. Will pay up to £8,000. No hurry for possession. "Somerset," c/o WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George Street, W.1. Mayfair 5411.

CLASSIFIED PROPERTIES

(1/6 per line. Min. 3 lines.)

AUCTIONS

AUCTION JUNE 28 NEXT
HOBB'S CROSS, HOUSE, HARLOW,
ESSEX

Harlow Station under 3 miles.
ATTRACTIVE 2-FLOORED, WELL-PLANNED, BRIGHT, MODERN, FREEHOLD RESIDENCE. In excellent condition. Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, 5 or 6 bed, dressing, and 3 bathrooms, maids' sitting-room, etc. Garage, stabling, matured grounds, orchard and paddock. In all over 2 acres. Electric light, main water, telephone, central heating. With vacant possession. Solicitors: Messrs. CLAUDE BARKER & PARTNERS, 153, The Parade, Watford, Herts.

ALSO
BROADLANDS HOUSE, BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN
About 3 miles from Bridgend Station and the seaside resort of Porthcawl.
INTERESTING OLD-FASHIONED FREEHOLD RESIDENCE. Hall, 3 reception, 5 bed and dressing, bath and 2 attics, maids' sitting-room, etc. Electric light, main water. South aspect. Long drive approach. Garage and useful outbuildings with rooms adaptable for living quarters. Well-established grounds, walled kitchen garden, orchards and woodlands. In all about 3½ acres. With vacant possession. Solicitors: Messrs. WONTNER & SONS, 125, High Holborn, W.C.1. Particulars with conditions of sale (price 3d. each) of the Auctioneers:

GODDARD & SMITH
22, King Street, St. James's, S.W.1 (Whitehall 2721).

For SALE BY AUCTION, JUNE 20, 1944, WITH POSSESSION ON COMPLETION
MANOR FARM

WITNESHAM, near IPSWICH, SUFFOLK, comprising attractive Farm-house (3 sitting-rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, good water and drainage, main electricity), 2 Cottages, Farm Premises (cowhouse for 14), and 76 acres 2 rods 16 poles of good Arable and well-watered Pasture Land. Particulars (price 6d.)

SPURLINGS & HEMPSHORN
26, Princes Street, Ipswich.

FOR SALE

NORFOLK BORDER (fine views over Waveney Valley, Dist. 2½ miles). Unusually well modernised Country Residence, facing south, in delightful situation, with nearly 20 acres. 3 reception, 5-7 bedrooms (4 with fixed basins, built-in cupboards, and one with bathroom *en suite*), 2 first-class bathrooms. Electricity, central heat, radiators throughout, ample water supply. Excellent outbuildings. Moderate-sized garden; remainder of land let off. All in excellent condition, ready for occupation. Unrestricted area. Freehold, £3,750. Full details: WOODCOCK AND SON, Ipswich.

FOR SALE

COMBEARTIN, NORTH DEVON (southern aspect and overlooking sea). For Sale, with Vacant Possession, attractive Modern Freehold Residential Estate, comprising gentleman's well-built Private Residence, occupying delightful and secluded position, containing lounge, 5 reception, library, billiard room, 2 bathrooms, 13 bedrooms and usual domestic offices, garage and outdoor accommodation. Electric light, central heating, good water and drainage. With tennis court and very picturesque well laid out lawns and gardens and about 35 acres of good meadow, pasture and arable ground and woods. Suitable as Guest House or Private Hotel. For price of freehold, viewing and all particulars apply: SANDERS & SON, Auction and Estate Office, High Street, Barnstaple

COUNTRY. A. W. BELL has for disposal Village Stores, Post Office attached, 14 miles Norwich. Also the Shop, Residence, Garage and Garden. Electric light installed. To view apply 12, Queen Street, Norwich.

DORSET. Very attractively designed Modern Residence with Norfolk reed roof. Rural surroundings, 9 miles Bournemouth Square. 4 bedrooms fitted wash-basins, bathroom, hall, cloakroom. 2 good reception rooms, ample offices, garage. 11 acres £6,000 or offer. freehold. Possession. Sole Agents: RUMSEY AND RUMSEY, Estate Agents, Broadstone.

EAST GRINSTEAD (close). Small Modern House. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, etc. Main services. Garage. Charming garden. Freehold £3,500. Possession.—PAYNE & CO., East Grinstead (Tel. 791) and Oxted (Tel. 166).

HERTS, OXHEY. Charming Residence for sale with vacant possession. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 w.c.s., 2 reception rooms, entrance hall, studio. About half an acre ornamental garden. Price £4,250 freehold.—VICTOR SIMMONS & CO., LTD., 23a, Aldenham Road, Bushey, Herts (Tel. Watford 2458).

KENT, in the favourite Tenterden district. Charming small Residential Estate, about 133 acres. Exceptionally attractive and substantially built residence, 5 principal bedrooms, dressing room, bath, 4 servants' bedrooms, lounge, hall, 2 reception, billiard room and excellent offices. 2 detached Cottages. Excellent outbuildings. 133 acres, meadow, arable and woodland. Freehold £7,500. Possession.—GEERING & COLEY, Ashford, Kent.

KENT and SUSSEX BORDERERS. Finely timbered Residential Estate, 60 acres. Georgian Residence, approached by long drive with entrance lodge. 10 bed and dressing, bath, 3 reception rooms. Electricity, gas and water. Garage, stabling, farmery, 2 cottages, prolific garden and orchard. Freehold £7,500. GEERING & COLEY, Hawkhurst, Kent.

FOR SALE

KENT. By order of the Executor. Choice position, overlooking Chislehurst Golf Course, half-hour Charing Cross, Willett-built Freehold Residence with Furniture. 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, boxroom, 2 bathrooms, garage, main services, beautiful gardens. 1 acre. Hard court. Price with contents £5,500, or House and Grounds only £4,000. Appointment to view of Sole Agents: DEBBENHAM TEWSON & CHINNOCKS, 92, Cheapside, London, E.C.2.

LIMPSFIELD COMMON, near. Modern Residence in splendid order. 5 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall, 3 reception, complete offices. Garages, stabling and grounds of 2½ acres. Freehold £6,750. Possession.—PAYNE & CO., Oxted (Tel. 166) and East Grinstead (Tel. 791).

MID-SOMERSET, historic country. Delightful Residence, glorious south prospect. Large rooms, modern south prospect, including central heating, garage, outbuildings, 3 large greenhouses, 3½ acres. £5,500, vacant possession.—MASTERS & CO., Weston-super-Mare.

NORFOLK. A. W. BELL has for sale Freehold Residence containing hall, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and scullery, 4 bedrooms (small bedroom easily converted into bathroom). Pleasant front and back gardens, Greenhouse. Side entrance, suitable for builder. Garage space. Price £900. Mortgage arranged. Situated Dereham Road, Norwich. To view apply 12, Queen Street, Norwich.

SALISBURY (1½ miles south of city). Attractive Modern Labour-saving House (built 1938). High up, sheltered, with magnificent views. 4 bed, bath, 3 reception, all main services, double garage, small pleasant garden. More land available. Possession by arrangement. Freehold, £4,750. Write: Box 956.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS. In a quiet secluded position just off Mount Ephraim. Extensive views, 10 minutes from Central Station. Attractive Modern Residence, 2 floors, panelled hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, ground-floor domestic offices, garage. Picturesque garden with tennis lawn. Auction with vacant possession, if not previously sold.—ARTHUR L. RUSH, 49, High Street, Tunbridge Wells (2772/3).

IRELAND. Sporting and residential properties. Estates managed. STOKES AND QUIRKE, M.I.A.A., 33, Kildare Street, Dublin. Also at Clonmel and Fethard, Co. Tipperary.

WANTED

COUNTRY. £5,000 will be paid for a small Modernised House anywhere from Cheshire to Devon or Mid or North Wales. 4-6 bedrooms, nice garden and a field or orchard. Possession up to 1 year.—"K." c/o CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS & HARRISON, Land Agents, Shrewsbury.

WANTED

AYLESBURY, NEWBURY, HIGH WYCOMBE, MAIDENHEAD, FARNHAM, BASINGSTOKE. Wanted to purchase between above districts and London, a comfortable House (no low ceilings, no small windows), 6 to 9 bed, 5 to 15 acres (might consider more land if easily disposed of). Box 943.

COUNTRY. Wanted, modern Freehold House. 5 bedrooms, usual offices, all mains, and Cottage. With 4 to 10 acres. Cash. Private buyer.—Box 944.

COUNTRY or SEASIDE. Wanted, Furnished Cottage (not banned area). 2½ bedrooms. 3 months, option longer. No children or dogs. Reply: Box 965.

COUNTRY. Wanted to rent at once. Furnished or Unfurnished House within good train service of London, 2 hours maximum. Must have good large garden.—Mr. PORRITT, 22, Gambier Terrace, Liverpool, L.2.

HOME COUNTIES. City man wishes to rent Unfurnished House with 3 to 8 bedrooms, or part House. £100 to £200 p.a., within daily reach London. Careful tenant. Highest references. Tel.: Puttenham 334.

—Write "HURDLES," Prioryfield Road, Godalming.

HOME COUNTIES. Urgently required. Furnished and unfurnished properties for genuine applicants. Particulars to WILLIAM WILLET LTD., Sloane Square, S.W.1 (Sloane 8141).

HOME COUNTIES. Small Cottage wanted, suitable artist. Preferably modernised, with bath and sanitation, although not essential. Within daily reach London. Must have several acres of pasture, and some woodland liked. High price will be paid for suitable property with immediate possession. Details to Box 955.

KENT or SURREY BORDERS, about 50 miles London. House required for post-war European war possession. 7-8 bed, 2-3 bath, 4-6 reception. Outbuildings, farmery, orchard, glass. 1 or 2 cottages. 15-20 acres.—Box 942.

SURREY and SUSSEX, TREVOR ESTATES LTD. have genuine clients wishing to purchase suitable properties. Please send full details to them, in confidence, to—3, Camberwell Rd., Sutton, Surrey. (Tel. Vigilant 2212).

WESTERN COUNTIES. Gentleman's Farm wanted to buy. Modernised house essential. 2-2 cottages. About 150-250 acres for dairy or mixed farming. Possession for a year. Up to £15,000 available. Write (in confidence) to CHAMBERLAIN-BROTHERS AND HARRISON, Land Agents, Shrewsbury.

WEST of LONDON (50 to 70 miles). Freehold House, 1700 to 1850 preferred, possession now or later, 4-5 bedrooms. Modern conveniences, good condition and outbuildings of village essential. Own occupation.—Box 969.

ESTATE

HARRODS

OFFICES

Kensington 1490

Telegrams:
"Estate, Harrods, London."KNIGHTSBRIDGE HOUSE
62/64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1West Byfleet
and Haslemere
Offices

SURREY HILLS

20 miles London. Beautiful views.



LABOUR-SAVING FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

Oak-panelled lounge hall, 2 reception, 4 bedrooms (h. and c.), tiled bathroom, etc.
C.O.S' ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER. MODERN DRAINAGE.
CENTRAL HEATING AND TELEPHONE. GOOD GARAGE.

BEAUTIFUL INEXPENSIVE GROUNDS in all nearly

2 ACRES. £6,500

EARLY POSSESSION.

Sole Agents:
HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1. (Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806.)

NEWMARKET 10 MILES c.2

Amidst quiet rural country, close to village and convenient to good towns. Local buses from village.

GEORGIAN TYPE OF HOUSE

4 reception, 12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Maids' sitting room.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGE. CHAUFFEUR'S HOUSE AND 2 NEW COTTAGES.

ALSO FARMHOUSE AND BUILDINGS, TOGETHER WITH FERTILE LAND. IN ALL

ABOUT 135 ACRES

FREEHOLD £8,000

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809.)

CORNWALL c.3

On high ground with fine views embracing about 15/20 miles of coast line.



FOR SALE

with the furniture.

ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

facing South Coast.

3 reception, 5 bedrooms, bathroom. Garage.
THE GARDEN IS WELL LAID OUT WITH LAWN, SHRUBBERIES, ETC.

PRICE ONLY £3,000

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 807.)

c.4

MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE

Hall, 4 reception rooms, brick pergola and open loggia, 10 bed and dressing rooms, 4 bathrooms, complete offices, Lodge. Ample garage accommodation. Electric light. "Aga" cooker. Co.'s water. Septic drainage. Polished oak floors, fitted lavatory basins in bedrooms.

Inexpensive grounds with spreading lawns, terrace, hard tennis court, well-stocked orchard, kitchen garden. In all about

6 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 806.)

BORDERS OF EPPING FOREST c.2

Under a mile from station. 12 miles from the City and commanding very fine views of Epping Forest.



PERIOD HOUSE OF CHARACTER AND DISTINCTION

originally an ELIZABETHAN FARMHOUSE, completely modernised and well maintained.
3 reception (including lounge, 25ft. x 16ft., with parquet flooring), 5 bedrooms, 1 dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Maids' sitting room.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. PARTIAL CENTRAL HEATING. GARAGE.
VERY BEAUTIFUL GARDEN. GRASS TENNIS COURT. FINE SWIMMING POOL 30 ft. x 15 ft., AND SMALL PADDOCK. IN ALL ABOUT

3 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and strongly recommended by : HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Rd., S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490. Ext. 809.)

ADJOINING AND OVERLOOKING c.2

RICHMOND PARK

In a pleasant position on the 'rise' of a hill and on a bus route.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE

Well fitted and nicely decorated, 3 reception, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Maids' sitting room.

ALL MAIN SERVICES. CENTRAL HEATING.
INDEPENDENT HOT WATER. GARAGE.

WELL LAID OUT GARDEN OF ABOUT

1 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Inspected and strongly recommended by Owner's Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
(Tel.: Kensington 1490.)

NEAR BEAUTIFUL WALTON c.3 HEATH

About 500 feet above sea level in one of the healthiest parts of Surrey. Accessible to station with electric service.



CHARMING FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

3 reception rooms (including large music room), 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main services. Garage. WELL LAID OUT GARDENS. Kitchen garden, flower beds, in all about

1 ACRE

Close to well-known Golf Course.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 62/64, Brompton Road, S.W.1.
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BOURNEMOUTH:

ERNEST FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
WILLIAM FOX, F.S.I., F.A.I.
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FOX & SONS

LAND AGENTS

BOURNEMOUTH—SOUTHAMPTON—BRIGHTON

LEAMINGTON SPA,
WARWICKSHIRE*In best residential locality just over 1 mile from the town.*

WITH POSSESSION MARCH, 1945.



SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION INTO 2 FLATS.

SOUNDLY CONSTRUCTED RESIDENCE

Situated on main bus route.

11 bedrooms, bathroom, 4 reception rooms, housekeeper's room, large kitchen, good domestic offices.

Companies' electricity, gas and water. Main drainage. Stabling, Garage and chauffeur's rooms.

TENNIS AND OTHER LAWNS. GOOD GARDEN.

ABOUT $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE IN ALL

PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD

For particulars apply: FOX & SONS, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth.

IN A PICTURESQUE PART OF SUSSEX IN THE ROADMENDER'S COUNTRY

10 miles from Worthing and coast. Secluded position with southerly aspect.

THIS MODERN AND VERY ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN STYLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE



9 bed and dressing rooms (basins h. & c.), 4 bathrooms, lounge and 3 charming reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices. Central heating. Main water. Electricity.

LODGE, 2 GARAGES,
GREENHOUSES.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS
INCLUDING TENNIS COURT,
KITCHEN GARDEN,
ORCHARDS.

In all about
6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES

WITH VACANT POSSESSION.



For particulars apply: FOX & SONS, 117, Western Road, Brighton.

DORSET

*In an excellent residential neighbourhood, with private entrance to a popular 18-hole Golf Course, and enjoying fine panoramic views over the links. Only 7 miles from Bournemouth.*TO BE SOLD WITH POSSESSION 6 MONTHS AFTER
CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES WITH GERMANY

THIS CHOICE FREEHOLD PROPERTY WITH COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE IN PERFECT CONDITION, AND FITTED WITH ALL UP-TO-DATE CONVENiences

6 principal bedrooms, 5 maids' rooms, dressing room, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, housekeeper's bedroom, oak-panelled entrance hall, studio or workshop, flower room, servants' hall, kitchen and complete domestic offices.

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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCV. No. 2472

JUNE 2, 1944



MRS. RICHARD HOSKING, W.R.N.S.

Mrs. Hosking, whose marriage to Lieutenant Richard Hosking, R.N.R., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Hosking, of Yealmpton, South Devon, took place in April, is the only daughter of Sir Edward Blake, Bt., and Lady Blake, of Tillmouth Park, Cornhill-on-Tweed, Northumberland

COUNTRY LIFE

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WHITEHALL AND TOWN HALL

THE ease and rapidity with which it is possible to carry through the tasks of reconstruction once the day arrives will depend very largely on the working relations which then exist between Ministries and local councils. There are many theorists abroad in the land who would like to settle once for all the relations between central and local government. Clear that problem out of the way, they say, so far as all branches of administration are concerned, and think what confusion we shall avoid!

Among those who have views as to the general balance between central and local control of every kind of public service, some would have the Ministries not only laying down the law but executing it everywhere. Others want the greatest freedom of local self-government, and it must be obvious that somewhere between lies the *modus vivendi* which must be worked out in practice between democracy and bureaucracy—between the town hall and Whitehall. At the moment two Bills are before Parliament which involve to some extent a conflict of authority between the centre and the circumference. The Agriculture Bill contains a clause which is the result of a compromise with regard to control of certain branches of education which, if the Luxmoore Committee had had its way, would have been handed over completely to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Government have recognised that our whole system of education is based on local self-government, and in the Bill the Ministry of Agriculture is given charge of an "advisory" service which will be confined to its own immediate purposes. The other Bill is designed to transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture various functions of local authorities with regard to the supervision of milk production.

It would be a pity if the notion should arise, because the Ministry of Agriculture is involved in both these cases, that Mr. Hudson was taking part in some campaign to exalt central over local control. Obviously in such a matter as the purity of milk supply matters cannot be left to chance. For this very reason it is impossible not to agree with the plea made by Mr. Wilfred Roberts that in these days a multiplicity of small producers such as milk producers need local as well as central control, and that that control should be exercised by a body which is capable of dealing with the appeals of farmers who, under the Bill, may be ordered to carry out improvements which may in any particular case be difficult or impossible. The obvious bodies existing at this moment would be the war agricultural executive committees, but nobody as yet knows whether they or the county council committees are to continue after the war. They would have to be made far more

representative and perhaps given greater authority; but if they exist at all they should surely have just as important a local part to play in the control of milk production as in that of any other crop.

TAPS FOR THE FARM

A GOOD deal of surprise has been expressed over the fact that the new Agriculture Bill—in spite of the fact that a Rural Water Supplies Bill has only just been introduced—should have a clause dealing with agricultural water supply, and providing further subsidies for it. The simple reason was given by Mr. Hudson. Although in the past the Minister has been empowered to make grants up to 50 per cent. to assist private schemes by which farm water was procured from natural sources or by tapping the available mains of local water undertakers, there has always been a proviso that the supply must be used on the farm itself or in the farm buildings. The grant could not be used to supply either farm cottages or the farmer's own house. Clause 5 of the new Bill extends the grant to these two objects, but there is a very important reservation. If there is any reasonable prospect of public supplies being made directly available, the grant will not be made. This seems to threaten some farmers with long periods of delay. With £15,000,000 going to local authorities to add to their own contributions, the prospects of ultimate public supply to even remote farms and cottages seems decidedly on the increase. But the rate at which schemes are likely to be put in hand is severely limited, as all agree, by the possibilities of obtaining materials and labour. When is the farmer called upon to decide—or when will the Ministry decide for him—that there is no reasonable prospect of public supplies ever being available for the use of his farm-house or cottage?

THE WINDMILL

*HIGH on its curving hillside
The windmill stands and sees
Below it copse and pasture
And hamlet bowered in trees.
It sees the white road winding
From London to the sea,
That saw the laurelled coaches
Bear news of victory.
It sees the Hundred Acre
Where now the plough teams go,
The strivings steaming horses,
The ploughman trudging slow.
The gulls that scream and wrangle
The shining share behind
That cleaves the turf, unbroken
Since time nigh out of mind,
Where soon the green wheat springing
Like spears in rest shall come,
And soon again the reaping
And day of harvest home.
Turn, turn, you sail triumphant,
Grind surely, stones, and well—
So turned they, and so ground they,
The year Napoleon fell.*

C. FOX SMITH.

THE NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD

THE exhibition of photographs displayed by the National Buildings Record at the National Gallery should be popular on its intrinsic merits in these times of enforced immobility. Even those who think they know England well may be puzzled to identify many of the buildings, seen thus in detail or from unfamiliar angles, but also selected for architectural qualities that the post-card overlooks. The effect, even from this fraction of the Record's quarter of a million photographs, is to drive home the variety and charm of English architecture. The Record, now three years old, owes its origin to a suggestion of Sir Kenneth Clarke, and the progress it has been able to make largely to its chairman, Lord Greene. It has been he who persuaded the Rockefeller and Pilgrim Trusts to give the generous sums that have made possible the work of photographing and surveying thousands of buildings and of co-ordinating existing records, among them those by COUNTRY LIFE of English domestic

architecture—the richest in any country. After the war the Record will be available to the world at large for study and reproduction. Nor will the work end with the war, when re-planning and reconstruction are likely to involve even more widespread destruction than that envisaged when this admirable institution was founded.

GALLANT R.A.A.F.

HOW difficult these Australian cricketers are when they are up against it! It was thus that must have mused many of the spectators who wended their way home from Lord's in mingled disappointment and admiration after the match between the R.A.F. and the R.A.A.F. The Australians, having won the toss, almost instantly lost their best batsman and a very formidable one, K. R. Miller. With seven wickets down their score was but 78, and the R.A.F. eleven was metaphorically gleaming in the purple and gold of Wyatt, Edrich, Barnett, Washbrook and other lesser but still considerable lights. At this point McDonald and Ellis made a resolute stand, Roper who came in last laid about him nobly and the total reached 170. This may not have seemed very alarming to the "reg'lar knock-down o' talent" on the R.A.F. side, but it turned out too large for them and that by 47 runs. The hero who brought them down was Christofani of New South Wales, a slow medium bowler of good length with an occasional ball that apparently does unexpected things. He took seven wickets for 39 runs and that was emphatically that. Whether the name of Christofani will some day sound as terrible in English ears as that of O'Reilly or Grimmett it is much too early to say. Doubtless his distinguished victims were out of practice and perhaps not too serious, but nothing can rob him and the R.A.A.F. of a gallant and memorable achievement.

THE EXPORT OF WORKS OF ART

LORD HINCHINGBROOKE has raised, in the House, the question of prohibiting, except by licence, the export of works of art. While we are naturally in favour of as many works as possible of the national genius being accessible for enjoyment in this country, it is a question whether they are not often more genuinely appreciated overseas where they play an important rôle in sustaining an aspect of national prestige. That the immense wealth of Britain in privately owned works of art, even now, is under-estimated is suggested by the appearance at Christie's next week of part of the outstanding collection inherited by Mr. L. W. Neeld at Grittleton House, Chippenham, of which few connoisseurs were aware. The nation can have no equitable claim to debar English possessors of works by foreign artists, acquired when their forbears were rich, from selling them to the highest bidder when they need (or more probably the Exchequer needs) the money. If an inventory were compiled of known English works which must not be sold abroad, the State should be prepared to acquire them at an acceptable valuation if no private buyer will give it. In this way the nucleus could be formed of a British counterpart to the Paris *Garde-Meuble*, from which to furnish embassies abroad with representative works of the national art, in place of the few undistinguished royal portraits which at present may give visitors to our foreign representatives a misleading idea of the British genius.

GUNBY HALL

GUNBY HALL, Lincolnshire, the gift of which to the National Trust by Field-Marshal Sir Archibald and Lady Montgomery-Massingberd is now announced, was illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE last November 5 and 12. Readers will remember that "haunt of ancient peace" as Tennyson called the lovely Queen Anne house, with its Massingberd family history going back to Anglo-Saxon times. There is no more typical English home, nor one that has been more lovingly tended, as last week's extracts from Peregrine Massingberd's *Treasure Book* showed. Its accessibility from East Coast resorts will ensure many visitors.



Will F. Taylor

ON THE DERWENT, IN BORROWDALE, CUMBERLAND

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By

Major C. S. JARVIS

A QUITE common sight in pike-infested waters is to see, lying beneath a patch of surface weeds such as water-lilies, a large striped member of this cannibal family and, swimming about placidly within a few inches of his snout, a shoal of meandering dace. The explanation of this must be that the pike has recognised feeding hours, and between meal times, which the smaller fish know instinctively, they have not the slightest fear of the monster. It is, however, a very different scene when the pike wakes up on hearing the submarine dinner gong, for then the dace stand not upon the order of their going.

A more or less similar scene, with different actors playing the lead, has been noted several times in this part of the world recently, but the explanation is not so easy. In a most extensive and very ancient fox-earth, *circa* Queen Anne or not later than early Georgian from the look of it, an aged and most redoubtable vixen has brought up a litter of some five or six cubs. During this period life has been a burden to the local poultry owners, as many hens have been taken in broad daylight from the actual farm-yards, and from pens surrounded with 4-ft. wire; while it has been demonstrated that not one of us possesses an ark or house which is fox-proof against this most determined mother with strong views about regular meals for her offspring. On one occasion a strip of 1/2-in. weatherboarding, some 2 ft. long and 3 ins. wide, was ripped by the teeth from the side of a house, while a large coop covered with 1-in. wire netting had six of the strands cut as if by clippers, and a full-sized hen dragged through the small aperture. I am aware that in cases like this our old friend Brock, the badger, has invariably to stand the blame, as the fox is supposed to lack the physical strength for deeds

of this description, but there is not the slightest doubt as to the culprit on this occasion as she was caught *in flagrante delicto*.

All of this provided very definite proof that the vixen and her family were on the brink of starvation owing to the paucity of rabbits.

DURING the period of the terror raids angry and bereaved hen owners visited the earth at dusk and dawn with vulpicidal intentions, and a quite usual sight at this headquarters of assassination was old Brer Rabbit flipping about over the actual threshold of sudden death, and "acting the silly," as we say of courting couples in Hampshire, with a girl friend who had taken his fancy. How an infatuated rabbit, with his one-track mind a complete blank as regards danger, could have escaped the deadly menace lurking just beneath his feet, when closely-guarded chickens were dying nightly, must remain a mystery. There is an old saying that "all the world loves a lover," and perhaps that tough old vixen had just one soft sympathetic streak in her hard make-up; but though it is a beautiful thought I cannot quite bring myself to believe it.

AS the tide of war moves on in a slowly converging circle on Central Europe, with its constant movement of troops, it will not be disclosing a military secret if one admits that at one period, a year or more ago, our forces were stationed in southern Persia at Ahwaz, which

is a small town on the Karun river that flows ultimately into the Shatt el Arab.

I have heard recently that an Indian battalion, which was stationed there, lost at least seven men from mysterious fish which frequent this not particularly big river, and which were suspected of being small sharks round about 6 ft. in length. Some attempts to catch them were made, but no tackle strong enough to hold them was available and so, although several were hooked, not one was brought ashore to enable it to be definitely identified. Most of the men were attacked while paddling near the shore, and were dragged into deeper water where they were torn and terribly mutilated by apparently more than one fish.

SHARKS are known to frequent estuaries, but I have never heard of them in water which is not brackish, and Ahwaz is situated over 80 miles up-stream on the Karun where the water is perfectly fresh. Perhaps some COUNTRY LIFE reader may know the area well and be able to explain the mystery, but my impression of the Shatt el Arab into which the Karun flows is that, although it is one of the more insidious spots of the globe sharks do not feature there to any great extent, though the Persian Gulf proper harbours many big tiger, or man-eater, sharks.

The only other fish of the Eastern Hemisphere which will attack human beings is the barracouta, or barracuda, but I think it most unlikely that this deep-sea variety, which frequents coral banks, would venture up a fresh-water river. Moreover the barracouta is not a man-eater, but is merely a particularly aggressive cannibal fish which will at times attack anything moving in the water.

THE NATIONAL BUILDINGS RECORD

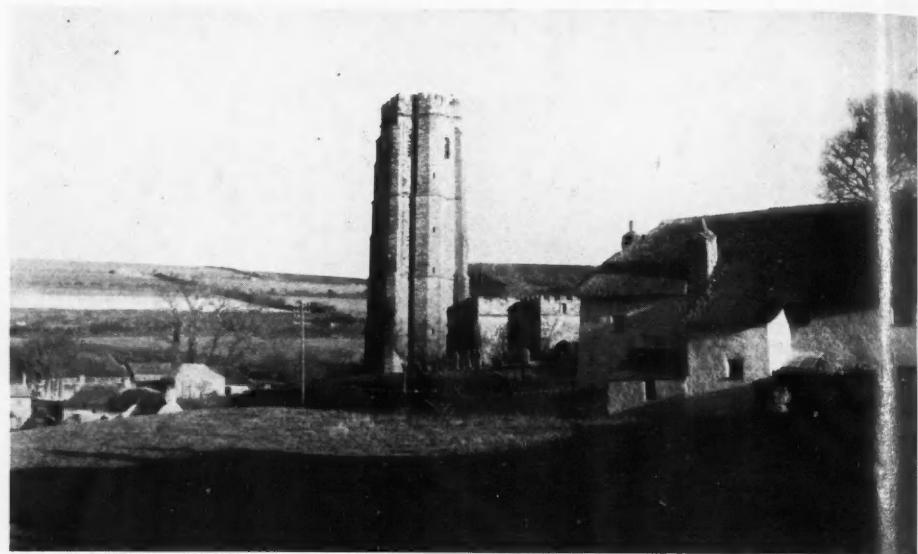
EXHIBITION OF A SELECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS AT THE NATIONAL GALLERY

By JOHN SUMMERSON, *Deputy Director*

THE National Buildings Record is three years old, and the exhibition of photographs and drawings now at the National Gallery is intended to show what it has been doing since birth and what kind of an organisation it is growing up to be. As part-author of the exhibition I have been painfully conscious of the difficulty of epitomising, in a display of a few hundred photographs and drawings, the resources of a collection approaching 250,000 and rapidly on the increase. Perhaps I can best give an idea of the Record's scope by saying something about it from the headquarters point of view—headquarters being, for the present, in the appropriate and venerable fabric of All Souls College, Oxford.

The visitor to the N.B.R.'s office at All Souls finds one of the College rooms lined from floor to ceiling with compact rows of "solanders"—book-like boxes—bound in scarlet cloth; the pattern overflows on to the walls of three other rooms, each box bearing the name of a county and an alphabetical indication of its contents. Inside are mounted photographic prints and photostats of measured drawings. Each county parish has a folder, unless it is so poor that it has no architecture or so rich (like, say, Lavenham) that it takes a whole box. An important town will have at least one box to itself, and if it happens to be a three-star city like Norwich or Exeter it will have six or eight, half of them devoted to the cathedral. London runs to 25 boxes. Here in these boxes is the nucleus of that national survey of English architecture which has been advocated for at least 100 years but which only the combined agencies of a 20th-century blitz and the 20th-century generosity of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Pilgrim Trust and the Leverhulme Trust were able to bring into active being.

The N.B.R. started in the gloomy February of 1941 with Lord Greene as its energetic and far-sighted chairman, an admirably representative Council and a staff of two—but not one single photograph or drawing to its name. The first hectic skirmishes to get some vital records made in London were depressing enough: invariably one seemed to choose the buildings whose souls were *not* required of them that



1.—SHERFORD, DEVON. ST. PETER'S CHURCH

night, and I shall not forget the bleak disappointment of turning up to meet a photographer at St. Olave's, Hart Street, on the morning after the church had suffered its worst and final blasting.

But the N.B.R. had not been briefed solely or even primarily as a recording body. It was intended to be, and is now, in the first instance, a co-ordinator. It was fully realised, from the start, that substantial parts of a record of English architecture were already in existence—some in public, many in private hands. Easily the most important was the Courtauld Institute's collection, begun and largely built up by the late Lord Conway. This the Institute generously put at the N.B.R.'s disposal for the duration of the war. Then there was the Victoria and Albert Museum's collection of photographs; there were the drawings at that museum and at the Royal Institute of British Architects; there was the work already done in connection with the Reports of the Royal

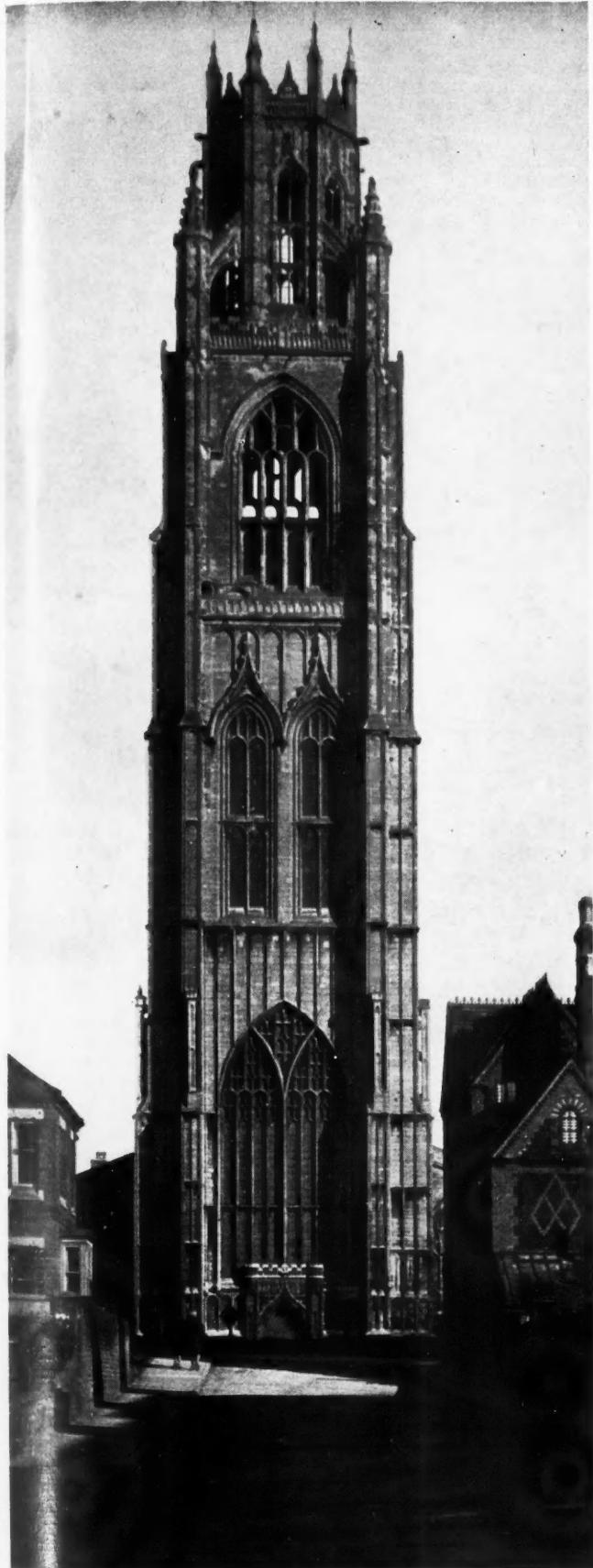
Commissions on Historical Monuments; there were massive private collections like those of Mr. F. H. Crossley, Mr. Arthur Gardner and, not least, of COUNTRY LIFE. And much more. The co-ordination of these outlying components of a national Record had to go hand in hand with the making of programmes of active recording to fill in the gaps which were known or surmised to exist.

It is this supplementary photography which is chiefly represented in Gallery I, and I think the fact of its being of this nature has given the exhibition a certain twist towards the recondite—though not, I hope, towards the obscure or the boring. I have noticed that some of the buildings represented have puzzled critics with very wide experience of English architecture. Lichfield Cathedral, for instance, photographed from due east looks curiously like something from the Ile de France; the grand portal of the Royal Citadel at Plymouth (Fig. 5) might, at first sight, be part of a record of Monte



2.—MARLBOROUGH. HOUSES IN THE MARKET-PLACE

(Right) 3.—BARNSTAPLE. QUEEN ANNE'S WALK
Erected by Robert Rolfe, 1708



4.—BOSTON STUMP

St. Botolph's Church tower, 1309; lantern, late fifteenth century



(Right) 5.—PLYMOUTH. GATE TO THE ROYAL
CITADEL, 1670-71





6.—TAWSTOCK, DEVON. THE NORTH TRANSEPT



7.—BOSTON. FYDELL HOUSE: THE STAIRCASE

Cassino; and the frowning youth from Lough's Stephenson monument at Newcastle (Fig. 9) commands more attention in the photograph than he usually does on his granite pedestal outside Central Station. It is strange how many new aspects and new beauties are discovered when a town or a building is approached in the objective light of material for record. Even the familiar silhouettes of Boston Stump (Fig. 4) or the bell-towers of St. Paul's look almost new when the camera takes the most obvious of all views—"bang opposite."

The desirability of confining our photography to subjects hitherto largely ignored or under-recorded has weighted the central section of the exhibition rather heavily in the direction of the nineteenth century. The N.B.R. recognises no date limitations but excuses itself from photographing contemporary architecture on the ground that most of it (including fair specimens of the worst) has been very satisfactorily pinned down by the technical Press. But that only applies to the years since about 1885, and a photographic hiatus has existed between then and the Regency—the last "period" to have been discovered historically. So the churches of Pugin, Butterfield, Street and Pearson have been photographed, along

8.—TAWSTOCK. DETAIL OF THE BOURCHIER MONUMENT
Early seventeenth century

with Lockwood's hard black Italian Gothic at Bradford, and Waterhouse's romantic staircase in his Town Hall at Manchester. The photograph of Pugin's own domestic hearth (Fig. 12) is perhaps specially interesting; the tapestries he hung on the walls, the colour and gilding, are still much as he left them in his embattled eyrie at Ramsgate.

Part of the exhibition in Gallery I deals with war damage—a subject, I am aware, which has lost its hectic glamour and shares the tiresomeness of the personal bomb-story now *tabu* in ordinary conversation. The insistence is, therefore, on "befores" rather than "afters." And the "befores" are not always easily come by. When the N.B.R. started its work, Coventry Cathedral and some of the City churches had already been lost, and Hull, Bristol, Plymouth and the rest were being pounded while our operational preliminaries were being sorted out. Thus, in many important cases, recording has had to be retrospective, and herein lies the importance of the N.B.R. as co-ordinator. We have hardly ever deliberately sought records of a bombed building. But the routine of co-ordination has gradually yielded them and continues to do so. Our collection of photographs of the Temple, covering very nearly every exterior elevation of the destroyed buildings and all the important interiors, comes from some 22 different sources. With these photographs, drawings from other sources, and measurements of surviving ruins, it has been possible to build up a very adequate survey of the Temple as it stood at the beginning of 1940. Of course, there are omissions and regrets. Would that we had photographs of the Temple Church effigies comparable to the studies which the Warburg Institute's photographer has made for us of the royal effigies belonging to Westminster Abbey.

It is often the unexpected records which turn up. Of Coventry Cathedral, for instance, we have Mr. Sydney Pitcher's excellent photographs of the misericords and some good views of monuments and fittings. But of that grand Perpendicular nave we have no photographs which express the nobility and mystery it possessed or the character of its crisp detail. Again, at Exeter, we have a well-lit detail of the cherub on the lost Rysbrach monument in St. James's chapel; but no general view of the monument itself.

There is another aspect of the co-ordination of record-work, and this is illustrated in the room off Gallery I. Three screens, contributed by the Central Council for the Care of Churches, display some of the work done during the war by voluntary workers all over the country. The Central Council, whose collection runs neck and neck (as regards numbers) with that of the N.B.R., was first in the field and has covered an immense amount of ground. Its operations, directed from the Central Council's temporary offices at Dunster, are dovetailed, so far as is practicable, with those of the N.B.R. by means of card-entries on the Record's central index. By this means a really



9.—NEWCASTLE. THE STEPHENSON MONUMENT
Detail of sculpture by John Graham Lough.
Mid-nineteenth century

remarkable voluntary effort has been harnessed to the main task in hand.

In the same room are drawings and reproductions of drawings, ranging from Miss Matley Moore's dexterous reproduction of some of the glass at Tewkesbury to student drawings from the schools of architecture. Drawings of this latter kind rarely make good material for an exhibition but are shown as tokens of the body of factual information which, in conjunction with the hundreds of published drawings on the general index, serve as a firm dimensional backing to the photographs.

The future of the N.B.R. is not yet determined. The organic and "inevitable" way in which it has pieced itself together in these three years is perhaps the best certificate of its validity as the answer to an actual need. How and when it is to be established on a permanent basis are questions still to be settled, but permanent usefulness and availability to the public are what we have always envisaged.

Meanwhile, it has been possible to assemble and co-ordinate a great quantity of material that will be of the first importance for the task of reconstruction—a term, let it be remembered, that covers not only the repair of damaged buildings but the replanning of whole cities, and various changes in the social structure of the nation. These latter possibilities, in the long view, render a national record of buildings liable to be destroyed, and the means for public estimation of their extrinsic value, as necessary as have the impacts of war.



10.—EXETER. PENNSYLVANIA PARK
Early nineteenth century



11.—FALMOUTH. MARLBOROUGH HOUSE
Drawing-room, with French landscape wallpaper. Early nineteenth century



12.—ST. AUGUSTIN'S, RAMSGATE. THE GRANGE
Dining-room fireplace, by Augustus Welby Pugin, 1841

LAND SETTLEMENT IN SPAIN

By SIR E. JOHN RUSSELL

The State scheme of Land Settlement, inspected by Sir John Russell on his recent visit to Spain and here reviewed, has in common with most similar undertakings elsewhere the principle of grouped holdings round a central controlling nucleus, in Spain a "Farm Institute." The standard of living is simple in some respects compared to this country; but the system of tutelage leading gradually to proprietorship is instructive.

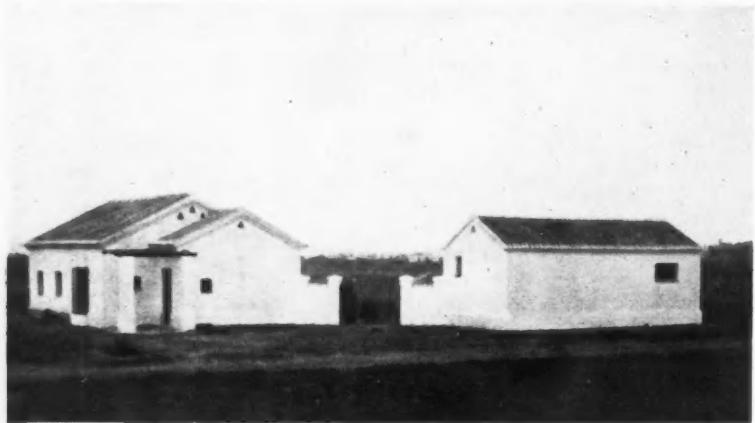
IT is a remarkable fact that agriculture, though necessary for the life of a community, is not sufficient, and the more it prospers the more it tends to produce an excess of population (unless artificially restricted) for which it cannot find an outlet. While the new lands of the world were opening up in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries they easily and often gladly absorbed the excess of the peasant populations of Europe. But since the last war they have imposed more and more restrictions on immigration, and in those countries in Europe where natural increase has continued the problem of dealing with the excess populations has become serious. Development of industry is not always a suitable way out: other means have had to be tried.

The Spanish Government is confronted

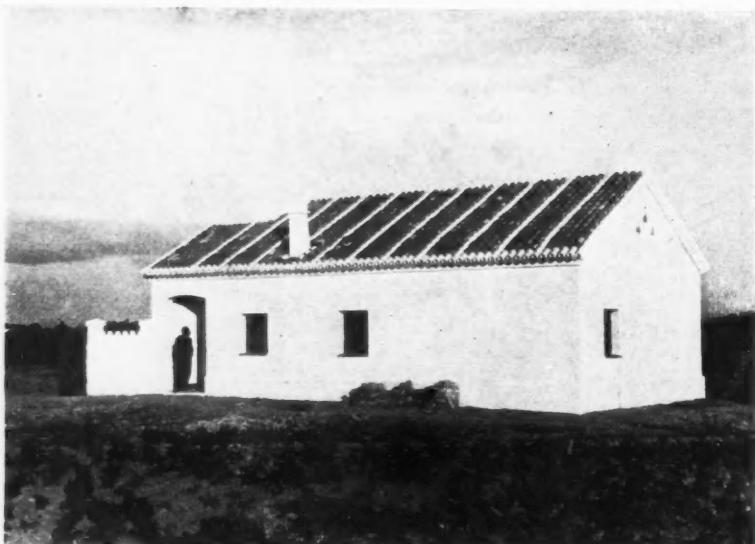
with this problem and is developing an interesting land settlement scheme. In my recent visit to Spain I had the opportunity of discussing it with the Minister of Agriculture, Don Miguel Primo de Rivera, and also with the principal staff concerned; I visited one of the new settlements and saw the beginnings of another.

THE SETTLEMENT SCHEME

The work of settlement is organised by the Instituto Nacional de Colonización. Much of the land in the middle and south of Spain has been held in large estates; the owners of many of these are recognising the difficulties likely to arise in future in running them, and so they are prepared to sell them. The Government buys them at an agreed price; I was assured that there was no expropriation. The compact block



TYPICAL FOUR-BEDROOM COTTAGE (on left) WITH ENTRY TO YARD AND OUT-BUILDINGS



THE THREE-BEDROOM TYPE ALSO HAS YARD AND BUILDINGS BEHIND



COVER OF THE SETTLER'S ACCOUNT BOOK

of land thus secured is then surveyed by soil experts and others and a plan is drawn up for its proper utilisation.

The settlement is planned as a whole: it is grouped round a centre where the big implements and breeding animals—bulls, rams, boars and horses—are kept and where also the agricultural staff have their offices. Cottages and buildings are put up and the land is parcelled out; the settlers are brought in and put to work. The two settlements I visited are both in the Guadalquivir valley, one north and one south of Sevilla. I need describe only one: Las Torres. The district, as its name suggests, is famous for fighting bulls which are bred for weight, size and, above all, courage. On the way out from Sevilla we passed a school for training them, a stockade enclosing a circular court where a young bull was being taught.

The district itself is flat and low-lying—Sevilla is 54 miles from the Atlantic, but it is only 30 ft. above sea level—so that the river has only a slight fall and easily floods; this is intensified by the sand dunes that have accumulated at its mouth. Many thousands of acres have in the past done little more than provide rough grazing; it is now hoped to convert them into settlements.

First the full soil and drainage surveys were made; then drainage was put in hand. At Las Torres the homesteads are being built and the people put into them, so that food production can begin immediately.

THE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE SETTLERS

Settlers are carefully selected: they must be sound and desirable not only physically and agriculturally but also politically; preference is given to men with families. The rules to which the settler must conform are simple and are set out in a booklet *Normas de Explotacion*, so that he knows exactly what he has to do. His occupation of the land falls into two stages; the first is called tutelage, the second ownership. He comes, of course, with little or nothing, so the Institute has to supply all the capital.

The booklet defines the tutelage stage as a partnership in which the Institute provides the land, the buildings, and the working capital items, i.e. all his stock, including working cattle, implements, seeds, fodder, fertilisers and insecticides; it also pays the taxes and provides technical supervision, giving the colonist a plan for the farming year to which he must conform, and controlling all cultivation and livestock operations. The colonist on the other hand gives his labour and that of his family.

The produce is shared with the Institute on a fixed proportion calculated to return to the Institute each year one-fifth of the value of livestock and implements provided in the first instance, and the whole of the value of the seeds, fertilisers, taxes, etc., which the Institute has furnished during the year. The colonist's share is at his own disposal; he can eat it, or sell it through official channels, or privately, in which case of course he obtains a higher price.

During this period it is stipulated that the house is to be occupied only by the farmer and his family, and that they are

between them to do all the work of the farm. No hired help is allowed, nor can the farmer hire or let anything, either rooms, land, animals or implements. He may not sell fodder, he must respect the trees, and must use on the farm all the manure produced. He must perform certain general work such as improvements of roads and watercourses, terracing, etc., "without any right whatsoever to remuneration," but for this he may find a substitute. He must enter in the book everything that he produces and all his transactions; he must also enter full details of work done and the condition of the holding.

Any falsification or any breach of the rules is punishable by fines, confiscation of produce, and in the last instance by expulsion. Any money paid in fines is, however, spent in improving the land of the settlement. Prizes may be given for good work. The farmer must contribute annually one per cent. of the gross value of his produce for administration expenses; he must also pay the insurance, and the municipal and transport dues, but the Institute pays the territorial taxes.

Provision is also made whereby a settler can give up his holding if he wishes. In that case he must furnish the newcomer with seeds and fodder, and hand over all equipment; any money that is paid is entered in the book and the balance left after paying the debt to the Institute goes to the farmer.

The period of tutelage lasts five years; during this time the Institute exercises close control. At the end of five years, if all the Institute's accounts are paid, the holding is to become the property of the farmer; he then enters the final stage of proprietorship; he receives the title deeds and thenceforward pays an annual amortisation charge that will ultimately make him the owner of the property. Should the five annual contributions of produce exceed the costs to the Institute the excess goes towards the amortisation charges. At this stage the Institute nominally ceases control, though the farmer would probably have to continue working within the framework of its activities.

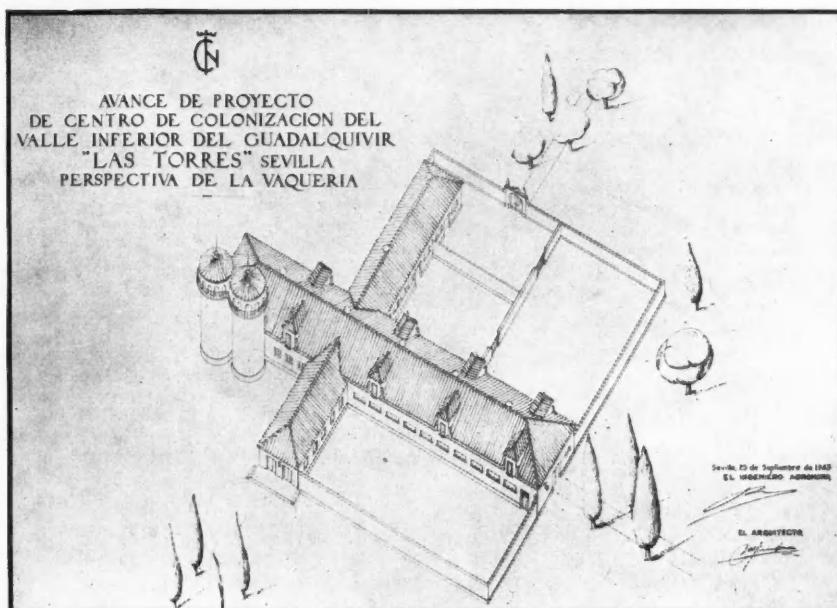
THE HOLDINGS

The holdings in the Guadalquivir scheme are 10 acres each, though it is hoped that this can be reduced to five acres. The crops will be wheat, Spanish peas, beans, feeding barley and mixed crops for the animals. The live stock per holding will be two working cows, one mule, one milch cow and two sows.

The cottage and the buildings are built round three sides of a small yard which is closed in by a wall; they have been properly thought out and are well designed. They are of concrete, and washed white, and the roofs are of red tiles;

the cottages are of one storey. They are all of the same general plan though not all alike: that, my guide assured me, would savour of communism; each has a little porch, a small living-room, three or four bedrooms (this is the chief difference between the cottages), a little kitchen and a wash-up place. The floors are tiled, with tiled skirtings; all joints and edges are well closed so as to leave no harbourage for insects or other small animals. In the kitchen is a hood under which an oil cooking-stove can be placed, but the other rooms have no fire-places or other provision for heat. The winters are cold, but the Spanish peasants have learned the art of using the brazier: I have sat very comfortably at a table under which the brazier warmed our feet and bathed us in warm air. Water has to be used sparingly and was not laid on in the cottages I saw, so of course there was no bathroom or water sanitation: electric light was, however, to be installed.

The cottages are a considerable improvement on those in the surrounding villages, and the hope is that the women will effect a corresponding improvement in their housekeeping,



A CENTRAL DAIRY FARM

Silos on the left at end of the main cow-house, the dairy in front at right angles. Stretching rearwards the "infirmary" with enclosure, and bulls' stables and yard

in spite of the fact that they have also to work on the land. Perhaps the biggest difference between the new cottages and the old is that the old ones cluster thickly in the villages, which come to a sharp ending as if they were surrounded by walls, leaving the countryside denuded of houses, while the new cottages are placed on their holdings and so are scattered over the whole settlement area. It would be interesting to speculate on the consequences of this change which, if it set a new pattern for the countryside, would be considerable.

THE CENTRE

The Centre is of vital importance in the scheme: here are the church, the school, the central offices, the large implements, the bulls and the boars for breeding. Close supervision is exercised from here over the settlement, and will be for some years until the settlers reach the stage of proprietorship. The breeding of the animals is decided here, for no settler can own a sire; nor may he hire one from outside. The cropping and cultivations are all prescribed: the settler has simply to produce: the Syndicate and the Centre do the rest.

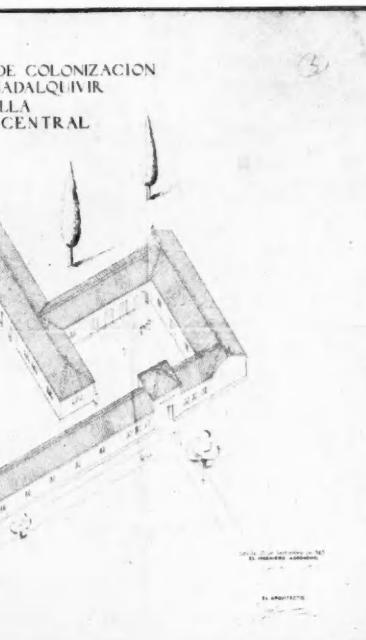
In some features the system resembles the Italian colonisation schemes. There is, however, a difference in the Centre. The Italians set up for this purpose a whole town very attractively designed in one piece by a competent architect, while in Spain the Centre is much more modest in its lay-out and of course less costly; use will continue to be made of the existing villages, and buses have been provided for transport.

Another difference in detail is that in the Italian scheme the colonists did not usually arrive till the buildings were complete: in Libya they even found the heavy furniture installed and a hot meal awaiting them. In the Guadalquivir scheme the settlers are working their land while their cottages are being built. Meanwhile they are living in shacks made of straw.

At the time of my visit it was raining and the tracks were very muddy; a young woman in thin shoes and a shawl over her head was carrying water to her shack. I could not help feeling that it was an uncomfortable life. But they are hardy folk, and when a little later she showed us round the cottage they were soon to enter, and told us of their plans for setting it up, I realised that her thoughts were of the future: of a farm and a house to be made and of children to come; and the present discomforts seemed small in comparison.

The scheme will be watched with great interest. After the war we shall have land settlement problems, and Spanish experience will be helpful to those concerned therewith.

AVANCE DE PROYECTO DE CENTRO DE COLONIZACION DEL VALLE INFERIOR DEL GUADALQUIVIR "LAS TORRES" SEVILLA PERSPECTIVA DEL EDIFICIO CENTRAL



ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE

Comprising church, school, offices and heavy implement sheds, repair shop, etc.

MASSED FLIGHT OF THE STARLINGS

By HARALD PENROSE

THE sun was setting as we skimmed a few hundred feet above the flat Shropshire fields. For a few minutes it gave life to the faded brown grasses, and glowed red on the unopened buds of hedge and tree. A little anxiously I stared through the blurred disc of the propeller, for still there were forty miles our slow aeroplane must cover before we made the little aerodrome in Worcestershire—and by then the light would be fast fading.

At that moment I was startled by the voice of my passenger, ringing clear in the earphones above the engine's sleepy drone. "What a cloud of birds!" she exclaimed, and waved towards a wing-tip.

Then I saw them: countless birds flying eastward. A quarter of a mile distant, they spread like a huge, undulating, black carpet just above the trees. I swung the aeroplane round.

"Starlings," I yelled. "Terrific number! Never seen so many."

In a great cube, so thick that it seemed impossible to see through the mass of beating wings to the ground below them, the birds slowly obliterated first one field and then another. Their true speed was belied by the vast area which they covered. Though they flew at over thirty miles an hour they gave the impression of no more than drifting like a smoky cloud.

* * *

The altimeter showed the lowest layer of birds at 200 feet: but there was rank upon rank of them, layer upon layer until they made a pile at least 150 feet high.

I pulled up in a steep climb, and passed high over the flock. Looking almost vertically down it seemed at that moment that they exactly covered the entire surface of a particularly large field—an area distinctively framed on two sides by straggling copse, and on the others by a stream and a main road respectively. The field lay almost dead on the course which had been set on our map. Hastily I fumbled for the pencil in the dashboard cubby, and, for its interest, marked the spot with a cross. When I looked up again the birds—as they so often do when attention has been distracted—had vanished.

A little piqued, I called into the speaking tube: "Where are they?"

"In that wood—that triangular black one," my passenger replied, pointing some way ahead. "They just flipped out of the air like rabbits into a burrow."

I dived towards the trees. They were black with birds. As the aeroplane sailed past, many large groups took wing and fled to either side, only to settle again within a few seconds; yet the majority of the starlings must have stayed on their leafless perches, chattering shrilly at the annoyance of our passage. Every tree was roped with their dark, lustrous bodies. Another dive or two might have set them all in flight, but time was pressing—and there seemed little point in unsettling them except for the spectacle of their massed manoeuvres.

* * *

Ten minutes of light had gone while we watched the birds. Five more were spent in returning to the marked field, circling it, and endeavouring to gauge the area. It was about 20 acres: of that I was tolerably certain, for constant practice at bringing an aeroplane in to land necessitates accurate judgment not only of angle and speed of descent, but also of comparative heights of obstacles and length of available landing run. Nevertheless 20 acres of birds seemed a fantastic swarming.

Though I hoped either to fly or drive to this place again, and watch the starlings for a greater time—perhaps finding their roosting place and following their track—the opportunity never came. Yet elsewhere, and on many occasions, they have been watched both from the air and ground, though never have they been encountered in the impressive numbers of this Armada of Shropshire birds. Such subsequent observation has, however, given not only insight of the manner of their flocking, but particularly of the density of birds in their flight formation. In turn, this visual impression gives deeper definition to the picture of the birds' status ecologically than any array of figures.

Perhaps one of the best instances of the massing of starlings was seen from a lane in Cornwall, near one of the creeks of the Helford

River. Once again, the sun was touching the horizon—sinking into the quiet of a November evening. The air was very calm; the sky a hazing blue, except to the west where a broken mass of cloud was burnished copper.

Rooks singly, in couples, and in little groups, came sailing on unbeating wing, high above the gate where I sat watching the sunset. Far down the valley came the faint echo of their calls.

A sudden rush of wings heralded a small group of starlings that barely skimmed the telegraph wires as they sped eastward, following the course of the rooks. A few seconds later came a larger flock, passing exactly the same spot, and within a minute came yet more. I searched the skies, and saw other wisps of starlings flapping briskly towards the east, but on slightly converging courses. A dozen of these flocks came into view within ten minutes.

I returned to the car and took my seat, wondering if it would be possible to follow some of these birds. The road, I remembered, would bend towards their course, a little later, and then run parallel. In neutral I let the car coast slowly down the hill.

Two miles farther on there was a wild whirr of wings, and a flock topped the hedge so closely that they almost touched the car roof. I stopped. Standing on the seat, I leaned through the sun-shine roof, and saw the starlings go tip-tilting into a straggling beech copse, two hundred yards away. From south and north, from all points of the compass, other groups were arriving. Flock after flock went diving steeply down, on half-closed wings, shooting through the ragged branches of an elder hedge, and, in dense packs, dropping into an adjacent field that was loosely strewn with farm-yard muck. There they restlessly paced to and fro, pecking feverishly at the choice grubs the field provided. A vast chattering, whistling, and hissing came from field, hedge and copse. And still the birds rained in, only at the latest moment checking their steep, fast descent with upraised and urgently beating wings.

* * *

How many flocks had come to this meeting place, I wondered: fifty, a hundred? How many birds? Ground and trees were black with them.

Still more flights arrived. As the birds passed overhead I tried to estimate the number of each group. I began to realise they were not packed quite so closely as at first sight they seemed. The span of a starling is about fourteen inches; this gave a clue to their distance apart. By watching the lower layers it was soon evident that the wing tips of each pair of birds were separated by at least three spans. That is, each bird required about $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cubic yards of air space—a reasonable figure when the disturbance due to down-wash from their wings is considered.

An impression of denser concentration is often obtained because of the great number of layers of the birds. They fly in an unevenly staggered formation in relation to those birds immediately above and below. Any line of vision upward or downward through the depth of such a flock shows the overlapping birds as if they were in the same plane, and thus gives the illusion of closer packing.

Having thus deduced the approximate spacing of the birds I had the clue to assessing their number. When the next formation came over I would gauge its dimensions by comparing the width, length and depth against the distance between the telegraph poles they were skimming.

I looked around the dimming sky for the next flight. The air



THE DEAFENING WHIR OF THOUSANDS OF FLAILING WINGS

was empty—but only for a moment. The next instant there was a roar like an express train as the whole gathering of starlings dramatically took wing. They leapt from field and tree, darkening the sky above me as they headed to the west. For fifteen seconds they streamed past, climbing hard. In a dense mass, like a swarm of bees, they drifted over the distant trees; then, fanning out a little at each side, held an almost straight course for the spot on the horizon where the sun had vanished. Probably from their altitude they could see the sun again, and would watch it drop a second time, but now into the brilliance of the endless sea. My thoughts flew with them, even after the birds had vanished into the evening distance.

I pictured myself among them: the deafening whir of thousands of flailing wings; the smooth flow of air over the soft feathers of the body; bird after bird stretching away to left and to right, above, below, and one after another

astern and ahead. With the birds' eyes I saw the small, rough fields of Cornwall, six hundred feet below; the silver inlet of the Helford River, banked with trees; the straggling village of Gweek by the mudbanks of the estuary; Helston Town grey in the distance, with the Loe Pool beyond held from the hungry sea by a great barrier of sand. Bare trees in olive-hued fields; straggling hedges; small copses; vast heaths; and, far away, the firm indented line of the granite cliffs of Cornwall defying all the Atlantic's might.

How long would the starlings fly into the dusk? Where would they land? What bared, scarified, group of trees would be their roost? And why must they form into this vast sociable mass, silent voiced as they flew but chattering like Bedlam when they were no longer airborne?

That brought other thoughts of the effect of such numbers on avian economics. How many starlings had I seen?

I remembered that other evening when I had flown homewards over the fields of Shropshire as they grew long-shadowed. The flock that had been encountered then was far vaster than this Cornish one. Twenty acres it had covered, I remembered: twenty acres and full 50 yards deep—a volume of 5,000,000 cubic yards. So that flock, allowing four cubic yards a bird, was 1,250,000 strong!

It seems probable that that number represents the total starlings drawn from a very great area. From the occasional observations of starling movements I have made from aircraft it is possible this area is not less than 3,000 square miles. This gives a starling ground-density of 400 to the mile when the heaviest flocks are present. If there is sufficient food available in the winter to support such numbers easily it seems they may not be so unfavourable a factor as they often are charged with being. Nevertheless, the starling is a bird which should attract the close attention of the ecologist.

THREE-SHOTTERS *— A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN*

I HEARD the other day from a young golfing friend, as I trust I may call him, though I only know him, as Miss Jenkyns of Cranford would have said, epistolarily. He sent me a little paper he had written on his ideal golf course in which he made among others the statement that it must possess six three-shot holes. This filled me with alarm and despondency and I told him in reply that nothing would induce me to play on his course, since it would be a weariness of the flesh. I think I was right, and yet perhaps he and I may not be quite at one as to our terms. It all depends, as the Brains Trust pundits say, what you mean by a three-shot hole. On the analogy of a "two-shot hole" it ought to mean one which takes a normally good driver something like three full shots to reach. If it does, then that is emphatically not the course for me. If on the other hand it only means a hole at which the normal player often wants a pitch or a run-up for his third, whereas the long driver can get home comfortably in two, why then I grow more and more accustomed to that sort of hole as I get older; the number of them seems yearly to increase, and I have no complaints.

* * *

The reason, as I fancy, why we do not want too many genuine three-shotters is not so much that they involve a lot of driving; it is the walking that strikes us with horror. Such a hole must be hard on 600 yds. long to cope with the modern ball, and six of those in a round—the imagination boggles at it. The architect who should lay out such a course would earn a lasting unpopularity and his clients would be passing few. At first sight we may seem much softer in this matter than our ancestors. Think of the old gentlemen who played with feather balls at Leith. Every one of their five holes was over 400 yds. long, the lies were doubtless rough, and 150 yds. was no mean hit with a feathery. They must have slogged and slogged and kept on slogging; but—and this I believe to be the point—they had only to walk at most a quarter of a mile for their hole, not the 600 or 700 yds. such a corresponding hole would involve to-day. Therein surely is some excuse for us.

* * *

It is not necessary to go back to feathery days to recall the time when there were a great many more holes than there are now which called for three shots, not all full bangs but three honest shots. At Blackheath as I knew it—I wrote something of it in sentimental mood the other day—there were those two consecutive long holes, the fourth and fifth. One was 540 yds. long and the other 500, and the lies did not always allow of a wooden club. It would indeed have been a hopeful and arrogant player who would not have compromised with Providence for a 6 and 5 (of course with a gutty ball),

a total of 11 shots for the pair. Now a match consisted of three rounds of the seven holes, so that one had to play those two long holes three times each. My young correspondent would have presumably enjoyed that: he would have had his six three-shot holes with a vengeance.

* * *

There were moreover plenty of courses possessing a considerable number of holes which could not be reached under three shots of some sort. There was Sandwich for instance, where the first, the fourth, the seventh, and then three running from the thirteenth to the fifteenth, were decidedly out of reach in two shots for perfectly competent drivers. At Hoylake, again, to say nothing of the outgoing holes, the Field, the Lake and the Dun, made a tremendously punishing finish. But the oddest example I can think of and one to be received with incredulity by those who only know the course in modern times is Worlington. To-day it is a course of fine two-shotters and there is not one hole at which the long-driving undergraduate does not hope to get up with his second. Except for the home hole, the nine holes have not very greatly changed from the time when I was an undergraduate. Yet with a gutty ball there were five out of the nine which were distinctly out of reach in two. The first took Taylor and Jack White three wooden club shots apiece the first time I ever saw it played. The third had been reached in two by Douglas Rolland, but nobody else seriously thought of doing so; the fourth, sixth and eighth likewise called for some sort of iron shot for the third. So in the course of two rounds there were ten holes at which a self-respecting player was entirely satisfied with a five. At the other eight, oddly enough, he might hope by perfect play to get a three. He was most unlikely to accomplish it, but each of the four was within reach from the tee. In fact the "par" (a then unused expression) for the nine-hole course consisted of five fives and four threes without a single four—a surely unique circumstance.

So many "par five" holes would to-day be deemed utterly excessive and I have already pointed out what I believe to be the reason. Driving power has vastly increased but walking power has remained constant. For the long driver there is not to be found anywhere such a thing as a genuine three-shooter; the longest is "two-and-a-bit." To lay out many three-shotters would demand more ground than would as a rule be available. It could only be done by robbing the rest of the course to its great detriment.

I am not an architect, but I imagine that one of the most difficult of an architect's tasks is to lay out a really good and interesting three-shot hole. To get a good tee shot and a good approach to the green may be comparatively easy, but to give the player something to do with his second which shall be both exacting

and amusing—there surely is the rub. Too often that intermediate shot is largely a matter of getting far enough; nothing more is demanded, and that is dull. Sometimes, of course, the second shot may be full of interest, but then either the drive or the approach is commonplace. I can think of plenty of pretty good three-shot holes, but the highest class seems to be a very small and select one. There are two that come instantly and obviously to mind; everybody would choose them; namely the Long Hole In at St. Andrews and the eleventh at Worplesdon. I am fortified in this choice by observing that these are the two long holes that find a place in the ideal course as chosen by Mr. Simpson and Mr. Newton Wethered.

* * *

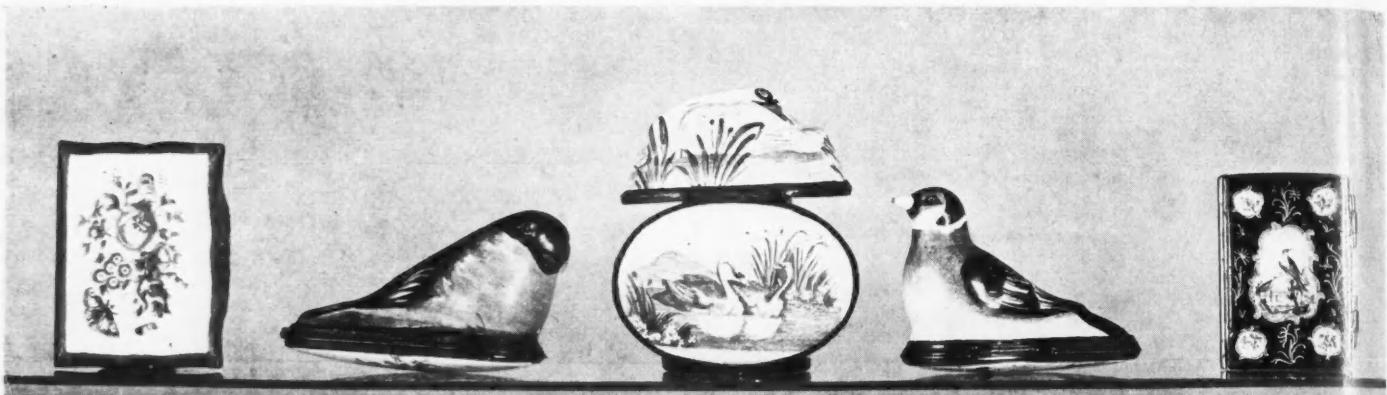
They call the eleventh at Worplesdon "probably the finest example in the world of a three-shooter" and point out one of its great merits, namely that "though it is in appearance perfectly straight it must be played as a double dog-leg hole." The player must first drive perceptibly to the left, and then back to the right, if he is to get his proper opening to the green; there is something definite and by no means easy to do with every shot. So it is with that noble long hole at St. Andrews. From tee to hole may be a straight line, but if we play it that way we shall find our second in the bottom of Hell bunker. That is indeed unless we are really long hitters and can go sweeping over Hell, but even then if we hit our long and gorgeous second only a little too far to the right, we are faced with an approach shot of quite excruciating difficulty.

* * *

Extreme straightness, of which a conspicuous example was the old Harley Street hole at Woking before its straight lines were broken up, makes, I think, for dullness. There ought to be a bend somewhere, as for example in the seventeenth at West Hill which I always thought a good hole in an unobtrusive way. But then my mind misgives me; is it a three-shot hole? Certainly not in the sense of demanding three full shots, but perhaps the modern hitter gets there gaily in two. This is one of the subjects which with the best intentions one is a little apt to judge from one's own ever shortening standard. There is a little perhaps unworthy consolation in thinking that no matter how far other people drive there is one hole that will always remain in effect a three-shot hole. That is the seventeenth, the Road hole, at St. Andrews. As long as the Road bunker is there on one side and the road on the other the man who goes for that green in two will take his life in his hand and is on the whole much more likely to take six than four to it. Neither is any system of instalments by any means foolproof. It is so easy to attain the perfect position and then putt into the bunker at last.

ENGLISH ENAMELS: BATTERSEA OR BILSTON?

II—BILSTON ~ By G. BERNARD HUGHES



1.—THREE BATTERSEA ENAMEL BOXES AND TWO BILSTON BOXES MODELLED IN THE FORM OF BIRDS

IT has been estimated that 20,000 articles of painted enamel ware were made at Battersea, of which not more than 5,000 now exist. Only about half this number are known to be in the hands of collectors. An infinitely greater number of the brilliant coloured enamels that are at present attributed to Battersea in all probability originated in South Staffordshire, at Bilston or Wednesbury, where several factories were devoted to the manufacture of decorated enamels until well into the nineteenth century. Not only has it now been established that painted enamels were produced at Bilston before 1749 but records dated 1780 show that there were at least three makers of enamel boxes then established there—Thomas Perry who died in 1808, Mary Bickley who died in 1780, and Isaac Beckett.

Mary Bickley exclusively confined herself to hand-painted enamels of exquisite taste and skill which collectors consider among the most delightful of their kind. Her favourite motif was a delicate spray or wreath of flowers upon

a meshed or netted background on a plain colour, or in colour upon another tint. This meshed effect was produced by painting over rather coarse muslin. Printed transfers were never used by the Bickleys.

Beckett's factory was established before 1757 and specialised in *étuis*. Transfers were extensively used for pictorial work, the designs often being painted with clever miniature work, producing exceptionally delightful effects. The death of Edward Beckett, grandson of Isaac, in 1831 virtually ended the enamel trade of South Staffordshire. Bickley and Beckett enamels are the Bilston types most liable to be described as "genuine Battersea."

The most recent of decorated enamel-makers was John Yardley of Church Hill, Wednesbury, enamel box and toy maker, who made painted enamels of a degenerate type as late as the 1840s. Boxes from this factory are of exceptionally crude workmanship and finished with a high gloss. To enamels as to other artistic products, the nineteenth century

brought coarseness and technical deterioration.

In dating specimens there are several fundamental facts which serve as aids to accuracy in differentiating Battersea products from those of South Staffordshire. Colour is one of the most important. Dark blue was first used as a ground colour in 1755, pea green in 1759, turquoise and claret colour in 1760. South Staffordshire enamels may be found in all colours, especially a peculiar pink or rose-coloured ground, painted with small flowers and gilt borders. This colour, known as *rose pompadour*, originated at Sèvres in 1757, 12 months after the Battersea factory was closed, and was not used in England earlier than 1760. When uncoloured, the ground of South Staffordshire enamels is hard and very white; Battersea has a much softer and creamier tone.

Although large and handsome pieces equal to Battersea's best were made in South Staffordshire between 1760 and 1780, decoration on these is usually conventional and colours are less refined than those of Battersea. Violent contrasts rather than subtle harmonies characterise South Staffordshire work. This results in a certain rigidity and clumsiness even when the colour is good.

The fondness of the Battersea decorators for scrollwork, with trellis and diaper patterns by way of variety, is a means of identifying the true Battersea product, since precisely similar motifs do not appear elsewhere. Another marked Battersea characteristic is the use of translucent colours through which the original transfer engraving is clearly visible. The South Staffordshire factories applied excellent colours in rich, fat washes, almost obscuring the transfer.

Polished steel mirrors in powder-boxes were discontinued in 1785 when glass was substituted: boxes with glass mirrors therefore belong to South Staffordshire. Small boxes and tea caddies with corrugated sides did not appear much before 1805. Pillars and obelisks in designs are a Battersea peculiarity; while strange-looking churches with spires are Bilston. The Dresden *bonbonnières* in animal forms were popular with the South Staffordshire enamellers, who were continually seeking novelties. They adapted Dresden ideas to their own service in turning out the finely modelled boxes in the shape of birds, animals, human heads, fruits, and so on.

Many of the designs used on South Staffordshire enamels were copied from *The Ladies' Amusement or the Whole Art of Japanning*, published by Sayers in 1760, and containing engravings after Pillement, Watteau and others. Enamels bearing



2.—THREE PAINTED MEDALLIONS. BILSTON

patterns borrowed from this book obviously originated in the South Staffordshire workshops.

Pictures after mezzotints of the period and nearly all of the portraits of celebrities appearing on enamels were produced some years after the closing of York House. They cannot therefore be attributed to Battersea. The works of Sir Joshua Reynolds, for instance, were copied in miniature with great skill by the Bilton enamellers. But as a general rule South Staffordshire portraits cannot rival Battersea work, as for the most part they have a coarse Rowlandson effect. Pictures originating in Battersea cover the entire surface of the decorated article; South Staffordshire designs are usually enclosed in reserves. Costumes and subjects of paintings are important points to be noted in the dating of all enamels.

The earliest literary mention of Battersea enamels was by Horace Walpole in 1755. Writing to Richard Bentley he said: "I shall send you a trifling snuff-box, only as a sample of the manufacture at Battersea which is done with copper plates."

Among the modern fakers' favourite products have been pseudo-Battersea enamels by the hundred gross. The majority were made in France and have found their way to curio dealers all over the world. For the most part they take the form of snuff-boxes, conveniently enlarged to cigarette size, patch-boxes, candlesticks and plaques.



3.—WINE STRAINER, PAINTED IN CRIMSON; AND TWO MUSTARD-POTS WITH COVERS, IN COLOURS AND GOLD. BILSTON



4.—A GROUP OF BILSTON ENAMELS INCLUDING MODELLED TOY BOXES AND TWO SCENT BOTTLES



5.—THE SCISSOR-CASE (THIRD FROM LEFT) IS FROM BATTERSEA. THE REMAINDER—TWO NEEDLE-CASES, AN ETUI, AND TWO BODKIN-CASES—ARE FROM STAFFORDSHIRE

Genuine mounts were hand-wrought in Wolverhampton by masters of their craft, each being specially made to fit the article for which it was intended. The hinges were particularly well made; fake hinges usually have a little projection in the middle, and press-tool marks are clearly visible. The enamel itself has a thin, high glaze with a wonderfully glossy surface during the first years of life. Its colours, especially the blues in sky and water, are too bright, and the general tone lacks the creaminess of Battersea and the dead white of South Staffordshire.

Often these fakes, intended to deceive, are cleverly aged, deliberately chipped, cracked and given stains that appear to be due to time alone. Thus, detection is not easy, even to the eye trained to take note of every slight variation in quality. Usually, however, these modern imitations are much inferior to their originals. Those inscribed with sentiments are poorly lettered, and those elaborately and effectively decorated with landscapes and figures lack the fine exactitude of touch which characterises the originals.

Any piece marked with a cross is an acknowledged imitation made by Sampon of Paris. English enamels were never marked. Continental copies of Battersea productions were also made during the mid-nineteenth century.

HYGIENE IN THE ORCHARD

THE devastating frosts which swept through the home counties and other parts of the country early last month, leaving behind a legacy of browned blossoms and seared and blackened foliage and doing severe damage to nearly all fruit crops which were at their most critical stage, have probably so disheartened gardeners that many may consider it unnecessary to undertake the routine remedial measures against pests and diseases. It would be a mistake to neglect such measures on the grounds that the frosts have spoiled the bulk of the plums and cherries, apples and pears, gooseberries and currants. With fresh fruit likely to be extremely scarce, there is all the more reason why growers, and especially those whose trees and bushes have been fortunate enough to escape the withering touch of the frosts, should take adequate precautions to safeguard what fruit remains from the ravages of pests and diseases.

Winter spraying with one of the approved tar-oil washes or, better still, with the newer D.N.C. type of wash, while wholly excellent in its way, is not enough in itself to safeguard fruit trees and bushes from all the ills to which they are heir. Unfortunately it is of little or no avail against fungus troubles, and for these, as well as for a number of insect pests which make their appearance in summer, further sprays or dusts must be applied during the spring to bring

the crops safely through a critical period when they are liable to infection and attack.

The unsightly scab disease is probably one of the most troublesome and widespread diseases with which the fruit-grower has to deal, and adequate steps should be taken to prevent its appearance by spraying with Bordeaux mixture or lime sulphur. Of the two, the former is the more powerful fungicide, but it has the disadvantage that it causes a certain amount of scorching of the foliage and russetting of the fruits in certain varieties. The same, however, is also true of lime sulphur, which causes leaf scorch and fruit drop in some varieties, and with sulphur-shy kinds such as Beauty of Bath, Newton Wonder, Charles Ross, Lane's Prince Albert, Blenheim Orange, Wellington and Rev. W. Wilks, a Bordeaux-mixture spray or a copper-lime dust is preferable to lime sulphur.

Spraying should be carried out at least three times to control scab really effectively. The first spray should be given at the pink bud stage (the white bud stage in the case of pears), the second as soon as the petals have fallen (post-blossom stage) and the third some three to four weeks later. Where scab is prevalent the application of a second post-blossom spray is advisable at a strength of about 1 pint of lime sulphur to 12 gallons of water. Three or even four applications may be necessary for pears and on all trees Bordeaux mixture or lime sulphur can be used with safety, with the exception of Doyenne du Comice, which is liable to scorch through post-blossom sprays of lime sulphur or copper solutions. Spraying against scab will also help to control brown rot, another common trouble, and if Bordeaux mixture is employed, red spider and to some extent mildew can be controlled.

Mildew and sawfly are two troubles of the gooseberry which it is possible to control by spraying with lime sulphur to which derris has been added in the proportion of 1 pint lime sulphur and 2 oz. derris to 12 gallons of water to which a suitable spreading agent has been added. In place of derris, lead arsenate or nicotine can be added to the lime-sulphur solution to check caterpillars, but, as these are highly poisonous, their use on fruit bushes or trees in close proximity to vegetable crops liable to receive the drip from the spray, is not advisable. Varieties like Lancer, Whinham's Industry and Keepsake that are most susceptible to mildew are fortunately able to stand lime sulphur, but other kinds such as Leveller and Langley Gage are sulphur-shy and for these a wash of 2 lb. of washing soda to 10 gallons of water with soft soap added should be used. If sawfly caterpillars are troublesome, a second application of liquid derris or a dusting in powder form about the end of the month will be found beneficial and prevent defoliation of the bushes.



APPLE SHOOTS INFESTED WITH WOOLLY APHIS

The most familiar and most widely distributed pest of apples

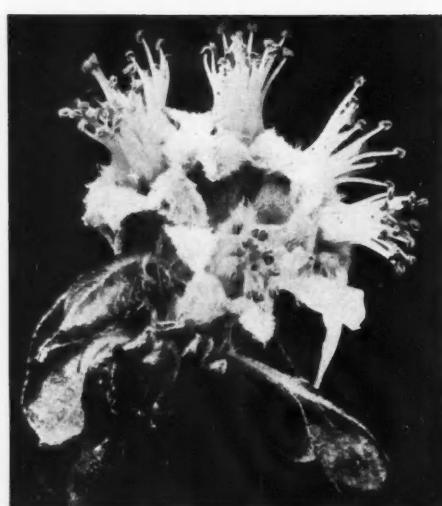
The same treatment is advisable for raspberries and allied fruits to check the activities of the beetle whose larvae, the well-known tiny whitish grubs, find refuge in the fruits of raspberries, loganberries and blackberries. A dusting of the bushes immediately the petals have fallen followed by another application about three weeks later will provide a satisfactory control.

American blight or woolly aphis, whose presence on apple trees is familiar to most gardeners through the white woolly masses adhering to stem and shoot, is another widespread pest which can be dealt with by the application of a contact wash or dust, nicotine or derris. To be effective, control measures against all aphid pests should be carried out early in the season, when their presence is first detected, and in a thorough manner. As it is essential to penetrate the woolly covering to reach the pests, the insecticide, whether in liquid or powder form, must be applied with considerable force, and stem and shoot as well as the underside of the leaves must be thoroughly wetted with the wash or covered with the powder. Only by thorough and forceful spraying will aphides be kept in check, and as they already seem to be present in considerable numbers this season despite winter spraying, which does much to keep them in check, prompt steps should be taken to destroy any colonies that are evident before they are allowed to spread.

One hint in conclusion. A dry and calm day should be chosen for spraying, and this should not be done in strong sunshine, which



DUSTING RASPBERRIES WITH DERRIS POWDER AGAINST THE RASPBERRY BEETLE



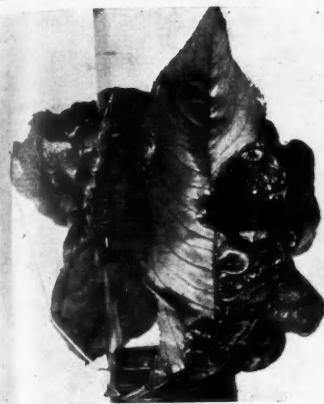
THE PETAL FALL OR POST-BLOSSOM STAGE FOR LATE SPRAYING



PEAR LEAVES RIDDLED BY LEAF-EATING WEEVILS



A SHOOT OF CHERRY ATTACKED BY BLACK FLY



increases the risk of scorch. Use an efficient apparatus such as a knapsack machine, which provides the ample pressure that is required to drive the washes on to the trees and bushes so that all parts receive a thorough and uniform wetting. The quantity of wash required per tree depends naturally on the size of the tree and its development, but generally speaking it is wise to allow about 1 gallon of spray for each medium-sized tree.

G. C. TAYLOR.

(Left) LEAF CURL ON PEACHES

A common trouble with peaches and many other fruits

(Right) THE FAMILIAR BROWN ROT FUNGUS ON PLUMS



PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHOOTING

THE "COUNTRY LIFE" J.T.C. MINIATURE-RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

THE results of the COUNTRY LIFE Public Schools J.T.C. Miniature-rifle Championship this year indicate little difference from the general standard of 1943. Although the scores are certainly a little better in some of the series, there has been a slight falling away in others. Owing, probably, to the impossibility of renewing rifles and the difficulty of even getting them repaired, the shooting may not have been so good as it was before the war, but a lot of it was admirable, especially by the leading teams, and some of the cards, both in the grouping and rapid series, are excellent. To get scores of 48, 49 or 50 on the latter card is exceptional shooting, as a competitor is allowed only six seconds in which to load, sight, get his shot away and extract the empty shell.

In winning the Class "A" Cup for the second successive year the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, made a score of 844, or 24 points higher than their winning total of last year. Marlborough College (1st team), again second, also improved their score—817 against 798 last season. The team placed third, Taunton School, greatly improved on their 631 of last year with 783. Winchester College (2nd team) returned 695 to win the medals for the best second team.

Teams showed practically the same form in the grouping tests as last year. Only Royal Grammar School, Guildford, made the highest possible score of 80 points. Two teams made 75 and 14 scored 65 or over. The shooting on the rapid targets was a little better by the best teams, and 10 scored 371 or upwards, compared with 9 last season. Teams again found the snap target a difficult proposition and on the whole the form shown was scarcely so good. Marlborough College (1st team) were the best team here and head the list with 190 points. Royal Grammar School, Guildford, were the second best with 185, and altogether 11 teams made 150 or upwards. Last year 12 teams scored 155 or over.

Shooting was better on what is perhaps the most interesting target—the landscape. The score of 189 by Royal Grammar School, Guildford, was the best, compared with their 173 last year. Marlborough College, the second best, made 178. There were nine scores of 163 or over, against the same number with 151 or over last year.

Not having so many cadets to draw on the schools in Class "B" find it rather more difficult to build up first-class teams. Among those who succeeded were Glenalmond (Trinity College), the Cup winners, with a score of 784, Allhallows School (second) and Hampstead University College School (third). Compared with last season, some teams have not done so well, but others have done better, and on balance a general improvement is shown.

The form in the grouping series was a little better, and, although no team made the full score of 80 points, three scored 75, which is good shooting. Teams did not do so well in the rapid,

but were better in the snap-shooting event, where the best 10 made 135 or over, against the same number with 130 or over in 1943. Competitors also did better on the landscape target. There were 10 teams with 143 points or more with a top score of 175 by Glenalmond. Last year, the best score was 160 and the leading 10 scores were 131 or over.

The chief returns are as follows:

CLASS "A" CUP

Schools with one company and two platoons or over

	Group	Rapid	Snap	Landscape	Total
1. ROY. GRAM., GUILDFORD	80	390	185	189	844
2. MARLBOROUGH (1st)	75	374	190	178	817
3. TAUNTON	70	376	170	167	783
4. WREKIN	70	376	145	163	754
5. WINCHESTER (1st)	65	382	160	145	752
6. SEDBERGH	67	371	135	175	748
7. ALDENHAM	60	365	145	171	741
8. REPTON (1st)	55	371	150	158	734
9. GEORGE WATSON'S	60	361	160	148	729
10. ST. EDWARD'S (1st)	60	376	150	137	723
11. KING'S COLL. (1st)	62	365	145	150	722
12. DENSTONE	62	367	145	147	721
13. CHARTERHOUSE (1st)	57	372	165	121	715
14. ALLEYN'S	65	357	145	140	707
15. WELLINGTON COLL. (1st)	60	367	125	153	705
16. HARROW	45	354	150	153	702
17. SHREWSBURY	55	368	145	131	699
18. GLASGOW ACADEMY (1st)	57	350	135	155	697
19. BLUNDELL'S	75	367	150	104	696
20. WINCHESTER (2nd)	60	370	135	130	695
21. HAILESBURY AND I.S.C.	50	358	150	136	694
22. REPTON (2nd)	42	363	120	168	693
23. ETON	65	359	135	134	693
24. OUNDE (1st)	62	371	125	131	689
25. CHELTENHAM	60	359	100	169	688
26. ROSSALL SCHOOL	65	365	140	118	688
27. CLIFTON COLL. (1st)	55	355	145	129	684
28. CANFORD SCHOOL	67	335	135	139	676
29. OUNDE (2nd)	50	354	145	127	676
30. EPSOM COLL.	62	330	115	166	673
31. MERCHANT TAYLORS'	57	356	125	134	672
32. AMPLEFORTH (1st)	49	354	125	140	668
33. KING'S COLL. (2nd)	65	350	115	133	663
34. WELLINGTON COLL. (2nd)	50	358	120	134	662
35. ST. EDWARD'S (2nd)	50	356	120	132	658
37. KING EDWARD'S	52	347	120	138	657
38. MARLBOROUGH (2nd)	45	334	145	127	651
39. CITY OF LONDON	65	360	130	85	640
40. ST. ALBANS SCHOOL	60	319	135	124	638

The best second team, outside the first three

WINCHESTER COLLEGE ... 60 370 135 130 695

CLASS "B" CUP

Schools with less than one company and two platoons

	Group	Rapid	Snap	Landscape	Total
1. GLENALMOND (TRINITY COLL.)...	75	359	175	175	784
2. ALLHALLOWS SCHOOL	65	364	170	150	749
3. HAMPSTEAD UN. COLL. (20 yds.)	75	369	135	156	735
4. BLOXHAM SCHOOL	50	369	155	138	712
5. EXETER SCHOOL	42	358	135	166	701
6. BARNARD CASTLE	55	364	135	152	701
7. HURSTPIERPOINT	65	355	135	142	697
8. MERICSTON CASTLE	75	351	120	143	689
9. KING'S COLLEGE	55	358	135	140	688
10. FOREST SCHOOL	60	350	170	94	674
11. KELLY COLLEGE	55	348	130	138	671
12. FELSTED	50	344	145	127	666

SCORES OF THE WINNING TEAMS

Class "A"

ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GUILDFORD

	Group	Rapid	Snap	Total
Sgt. A. G. BLACKBURN	...	10	50	25
L-Cpl. J. R. HUDDLE	...	10	50	25
Cadet H. G. HIBBERT	...	10	49	25
Sgt. B. A. YOUNG	...	10	48	25
L-Cpl. J. P. HACK	...	10	47	25
Sgt. G. E. BOX	...	10	49	20
Sgt. K. E. WILLIAMS	...	10	49	20
L-Cpl. A. N. DALMAN	...	10	48	20
		80	390	185
Landscape	189
Total	844
Leader: C.-S.M. J. W. PENHALIGON				

Class "B"

GLENALMOND (TRINITY COLLEGE)

	Group	Rapid	Snap	Total
Cdt. J. M. MURRAY BISSET	...	10	49	25
Cdt. A. J. GAMBLE	...	10	46	25
Sgt. G. D. G. GRIFFITHS	...	10	44	25
Cdt. R. C. B. GOURLAY	...	10	41	25
Sgt. R. F. STEPHEN	...	10	41	25
Sgt. D. M. KIRKWOOD	...	10	46	20
Cdt. M. S. HARDIE	...	10	50	15
Sgt. A. G. S. McCALLUM	...	5	42	15
		75	359	175
Landscape	175
Total	784
Leader: Sgt. J. HEPBURN				

HIGHEST POSSIBLE INDIVIDUAL SCORES

Class "A"

Competitors with the highest possible scores of 85 points in Series 1, 2 and 3: Sgt. A. G. BLACKBURN, Royal Grammar School, Guildford, L-Cpl. J. R. HUDDLE, Royal Gram., Guildford, Pte. D. E. B. BEARD, Marlborough (1st), L-Cpl. G. H. PETHERICK, Taunton School.

Competitors with the highest possible score of 50 in Series 2: Sgt. A. G. BLACKBURN, Royal Grammar School, Guildford, L-Cpl. J. R. Huddle, Royal Gram., Guildford, Pte. D. E. B. Beard, Marlborough (1st), L-Cpl. G. H. PETHERICK, Taunton, Cpl. G. H. ROBERTSON, Oundle (1st).

Class "B"

No competitor made the highest possible score of 85 in Series 1, 2 and 3.

Competitors with the highest possible score of 50 points in Series 2: Cdt. M. S. HARDIE, Glenalmond (Trinity College), Sgt. C. BLAKE, Dollar Academy, Cdt. P. A. SPEIGHT, St. Peter's School.

PAINTINGS BY EDWARD SEAGO

By H. J. MASSINGHAM

A Loan Exhibition of Edward Seago's work is being held at Norwich Castle Museum this month.

AVISITOR to Edward Seago's exhibition of paintings and drawings at Norwich would, I think, be at once captivated and a little bewildered. He would notice at once a diversity of subjects which seemed unrelated—the ballet, the circus, gypsies, studies of race-horses, including Hyperion, portraits, strange grim scenes of airfields and broken aeroplanes, rich impressions of the English countryside in which cloudscapes play as masterful a part as in Constable. He would then be struck by a certain inward dualism of emotional tone, particularly in the landscapes.

One of the most tranquil of these for instance—white ducks swimming in a pond under lofty heavy-foliaged trees arching an open gate leading, it must be, to a farm—is the very symbol of English traditional serenity and consummate peace. William Allingham's *Four Ducks on a Pond* springs to the mind. But the picture seems to enshrine something deeper than the chance felicity of a minor Victorian poet and to gather to it the green thoughts of all the rural English contemplatives from Walton and Herbert to Hudson. The scene is of the crown and peak of summer, tranced in its own stillness, and so a kind of timeless absolute, a fulfilment and beatitude delivered from the flux of Nature but which Nature herself had achieved.

You get something of the same effect in the two paintings of Salisbury spire, rising out of the fields into the clouds. It dominates the land, binds all its multiplicity of detail into singleness and at the same time aspires to the heavens. In one of these the foreground is of two nuns walking in the fields, while the spire deep in the background points upward high above the downland escarpment on the



GULLS ON THE FURROW

horizon. To my mind, this is one of the most beautiful paintings in the whole exhibition, because of the subtle relationship between the spire and the human figures with the broad flowing countryside between them. It seems a visual representation of the older England Cobbett was always dreaming about. Because he dreamed about it all his life and, as he

rode over the shires, saw it disintegrating under "that monstrous thing, the funding system," he raved at its murderers like one possessed. Seago has for a moment seen Cobbett's England as he saw it, and given it a datelessness that fits perfectly into Cobbett's sense of its authenticity and so permanence in the eternal values. I do not mean at all to suggest that Seago thought of his painting in this way. But this is what he has achieved, a sudden vision of Nature, Man and God in harmonious interplay.

Yet the pictures of Silene and her foal and again of Filament and hers at pasture quite lack this sense of belongingness. They are four paintings artificially superimposed upon two and so, as I see it, unsuccessful. The other painting of the spire—and very fine it is—reveals a transitional mood. The sky is threatening, turbulent, impending over the countryside. But the silvered spire is an annunciation of

some ultimate peace that resolves all tempest and gathers the spreading lands to its own calm. There are two other fine oil paintings of clouds and gulls and trees and stacks and lands where all is animation, tumult and drama, and the questing, brooding, uneasy passion of the artist is communicated to the scene. But again the pure sovereignty of the spire is caught in the water-colour of two majestic elms in a field, whose outstretched limbs and dense crowns of foliage against a sombre sky have a similar benedictive quality. Another water-colour of an elm towering above still water (Seago nearly always prefers still to rushing water) is more dream-like and even ghostly. Though there is no mist, it is as though English country were fading and dissolving into a remoteness like Keats's "with thee fade into the forest dim," and the artist tries to hold the elusive beauty before it vanishes into limbo.

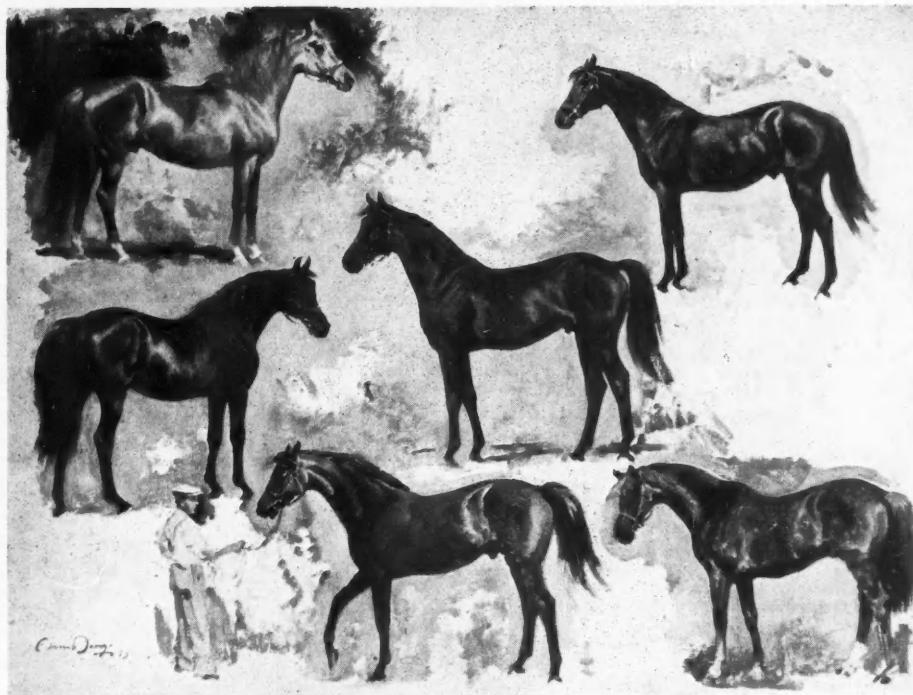
Fortunately, the artist has himself given us a glimpse into the meaning of these haunting scenes in his collection of brief essays called *Peace in War*. "To me," he writes, "Beauty is the outward expression of the Divine; through the realisation of Beauty may come understanding, and with understanding, contentment and peace of mind. Beauty is being trampled down, its seeds are manured with blood, and one day will come the harvest." Elsewhere, "To-day civilisation is in danger of being judged by the magnitude of diabolical machines which can do no more than hasten its downfall." He looks beyond the prison of this tottering and unintelligible world for a simplicity and reality lost to it, and something of its effect upon him is seen in the hard, staring pen-and-wash drawing called *Signposts*. The signposts are all piled untidily together in a dumping ground dotted about with a few bleak sheds and other lumber. It is a sharp conveyance of the guidelessness of a world severed from its roots in Nature and so banished from that tranquillity and contentment that the stable things of earth ensure. In all these landscapes, from the most restless to the most serene, a question mark is implicit: "To civilise: 'to reclaim from savage life, for what? To become barbarous in a civilised manner! . . . Has it not happened in the past, in Greece, in Rome? Industrialism bleeds the land: material gain culminates in war, and the blood of mankind.'" This is the conclusion of his dialogue with the old countryman



TWO NUNS

who stands by the old ways, the old rhythms and verities. Again: "How I love these country gatherings: ploughing-matches, Michaelmas sales, and fairs! Farm horses, with their braided manes and tails, tumbrils, with cherry-coloured wheels, and the varied assortment of dog-carts and gigs. . . . Perhaps we shall reward the earth with its own goodness, then the land will prosper again." But not, he leaves it unsaid, until we have passed through our purgatory and back to the ancient mother.

These passages do more than link up the various subjects of his versatility; they give the key to his intensity and absorption in the country scene he delights to paint. Beauty, he wrote, is "something serene, giving courage, consolation and content," and, in his rural paintings, beauty and the countryside are identified. Seago is an East Anglian like myself and great skies "swelling like a symphony" and "rolling their rhythm over the earth" are the birthright of us East Anglians. To this must be added his native genius and the influence of Constable, as perhaps Claude in his landscapes. But beyond these mouldings and his own power lies the contrast, ever-present to his mind, between civilisation as the orthodox interpret it and those lonely landscapes and sonorous clouds that belong to both the past and the future, that seem at once disturbing and tranquillising, menacing and yet to await the return of man from the failure of his experiment in a method of apology for living which denies both his spiritual and natural selfhood. The fairs, the ballet, the gypsies, the circus, these too are part of that otherness whose music has been drowned by the explosive force of a metallic age whose end is dust.



STUDIES OF LORD DERBY'S STALLIONS
(Top) Hyperion, Cæleon; (middle) Bosworth, Fairway;
(bottom) Sansovino, Bobsleigh

OUTLOOK FOR DERBY AND OAKS

GARDEN PATH'S PERFORMANCE IN THE "GUINEAS"

SO two more war-time "Guineas" have come and gone and the time has once again arrived to look back at them and forward to another war-time Oaks and another war-time Derby, which have been, provisionally, arranged for Friday and Saturday, June 16 and 17.

Though the race for the Two Thousand Guineas was run for upon the second day at Newmarket it can be considered first. Underfoot conditions had at long last improved. To owners and trainers of fancied candidates that improvement was very welcome; to the assembled multitude who had gathered apparently from everywhere, somehow, they were the reverse of pleasant. No matter. Twenty-six competitors took part. Twenty-five of these were colts and the other was the filly Garden Path. Partly because of the way in which she had run, and won, at the previous meeting, but chiefly because the general public realised that her astute owner Lord Derby would not have sacrificed the substance of a certain win in the One Thousand Guineas for the shadow of a possible victory against the colts without good reason, she became the popular fancy and ousted Miss Paget's Orestes and Mr. Hutchinson's Happy Landing.

* * *

There is nothing of the "pin-up girl" type of beauty about her, as she is rather plain-headed and of the long, low, easy-acted, varminty sort such as Herringbone was at about the same period last year. In the paddock, or rather in the plantation adjoining it where she amused herself kicking lumps off the trees, she was completely overshadowed, on looks, by such as Happy Landing, Distingue, a particularly good-looking grey by Mahmoud who is still officially described as a bay, the King's colt Fair Glint, who is full of quality but rather deficient in size, the winter-favourite Orestes who has never looked fitter, Victor Smyth's charge The Solicitor and the Aly Khan's Bois Roussel colt Tehran.

In the race itself, which was one of the easiest ever to watch and read, The Solicitor and Distingue were the most prominent in the bunch on the Stands side as they reached the bottom of the Dip; Happy Landing was going

well and ploughing a lonely furrow in the middle and on the far side Merry Mark, Growing Confidence and Garden Path could easily be distinguished among the bunch. Coming up the Hill most of these faded out for no other rhyme or reason than they were not quite good enough. Then, and it is almost invariably the case, just at the right moment Harry Wragg got busy on Garden Path and she, despite the attentions of Growing Confidence upon whom Mullins rode a splendid race, kept going with an exhibition of dour courage just to get first past the post by a head from Growing Confidence with Tehran a length and a half behind filling the third place only just in front of His Excellency. It was a pity Lord Derby was not present to hear the real old "Yorkshire roar" with which the crowd welcomed the winner. The best horse on the day won.

By the St. Leger winner Fairway, Garden Path—like the Derby winner Watling Street, the useful Full Bloom and the two-year-old filly Hydrangea who won the Bedford Stakes upon the first day—comes from Ranai French-bred daughter of the Goodwood Cup winner Rabelais who was bred by M. J. Couturie at his stud near Le Mans and was sold to Lord Derby as a yearling at Deauville, for 95,000 francs which, at the then value, was the equal of £3,800. Garden Path is Lord Derby's nineteenth classic winner and it is interesting to note that every one of them trace back, in one way or another, to the three mares Gondollette, Anchora or Ranai.

* * *

At the moment of writing the outlook for the Derby is clouded with uncertainty. That uncertainty is due to the doubt as to whether Garden Path will be retained for it and forfeit her chance of winning the Oaks or whether she will run for the Oaks and give the Derby a miss. Everything depends upon how she continues to progress. It is unfair, especially at this time of the year, to expect either her owner or Walter Earl, who trains her, to come to a definite decision so long in advance. Fillies in the past have won both races but then there was an interval of two days between them whereas now there is only one of 24 hours and the most strenuous test is left to the last instead of

coming as it did, first. Neither Lord Derby nor Walter Earl is the least likely to run the risk of ruining what may be a great mare by running her in both. Whichever she runs for she will most assuredly start favourite.

Of those behind her, other than Growing Confidence, Tehran and His Excellency, there is nothing to write. In her absence choice of these would be Tehran. He is a son of the Derby winner Bois Roussel and comes from Stafaralla a daughter of the St. Leger winner Solaro, who won the Tattersall Sale Stakes at Doncaster and the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket as a youngster, and came from Mirawala, she by Phalaris from Miranda an own-sister to Pretty Polly. Gomez rode this colt and right well at Newmarket, but, in the absence of the "dark" Beckhampton colt Mustang, Gordon Richards may have the mount in the Derby. Mustang had an easy victory at the Salisbury meeting on May 20. If he competes for the Derby his chance, like that of anything in the classics from Beckhampton, will have to be very much respected. His absence from the field in the big race will be, to say the least, suggestive.

* * *

And of the One Thousand Guineas and the Oaks? Picture Play won the former far more easily than Garden Path had won the Two Thousand Guineas. Quite the best looking of the 11 fillies who ran, she won by four lengths from the Northern-trained Grande Corniche with Mr. Rank's Superior two lengths further behind third, and Uva and Fair Fame, who was favourite, the nearest of the others.

By the Italian Derby winner Donatello II, Picture Play comes from Amuse, she by Phalaris from Gesture a daughter of the Derby winner Sunstar who, like the St. Leger winner Black Jester and the Oaks heroine Jest, was from Absurdity, she by the Derby and St. Leger victor Melton. Bred and owned by Mr. Harry Joel and carrying the "black, scarlet cap" made so famous by his father Mr. J. B. Joel, Picture Play won like a really good filly and is not the least likely to be troubled by any of those who ran behind her when the time comes for her to run in the Oaks. Unfortunately, and further to complicate matters, she also holds an engagement in the Derby!

ROYSTON.

CORRESPONDENCE

RODING AT MID-DAY

SIR.—One of the pleasures of a summer evening is to watch, and listen to, woodcock roding at dusk. On May 13, however, practically at noon (at 12.25 G.M.T. to be exact), I heard the familiar croaking note made by a roding woodcock, and looked up to see the bird passing overhead. With binoculars I was able to identify it as a woodcock before it passed out of sight. It flew on the regular route followed by roding woodcock each evening at this time of year, and at the usual height. I did not hear the high-pitched squeak which accompanies the croak, as that sound is inaudible to me.

Is this not very unusual?—
JAMES R. MARSHALL, *Rachan, Broughton, Peeblesshire*.

[This record of noontide roding by a woodcock is very interesting and, we believe, most unusual. The performance is usually a twilight one, and takes place during the breeding season over the nesting territory.—ED.]

WILD CATS IN ANGUS

SIR.—It would be interesting to know whether the wild cat is increasing owing to the shortage of adequate keeping, or whether it is being forced to move into new districts owing to the considerable felling of large woods.

There is a small wood of some 20 acres here, now a tangle of blown trees, in which the last wild cat was killed about six years ago. Until this spring there was no reason to think that any wild cats still existed there, but in March the keeper lost a vermin-trap, and five days later (March 23) found a wild cat in another reset in the same spot. This cat was a large male, 36 ins. from ears to tip of tail, weighing 10 lb., with splendid ringed, bushy tail and beautiful long soft hair—a fierce and magnificent beast.

On April 25 a second wild cat was found dead up a leaning tree with a trap on one of its front legs. It had been dead only two or three days, and corresponded exactly in weight and length with the one previously caught. It was also a male; and therefore it seems unlikely that the entire wild-cat population here has yet been accounted for. The trap was the one missing since March, but the cat was by no means in poor condition, although thinner than the first, and it must, when first caught, have been the heavier beast. The distinguishing "spot," about the size of a shilling, was most clearly discernible on its breast.

It would be of interest to know if the wild cat has now spread to any considerable extent in other areas south of the Caledonian Canal?—RUTH NAYLOR, *Auchnacree, Forfar, Angus*.

[Prior to the war of 1914-18 the Scottish wild cat, *Felis silvestris grampia* was so scarce that naturalists feared its early extermination, but the war brought it a respite from persecution by gamekeepers, etc., and since then it has maintained itself in fair numbers in the central Highlands. We have no doubt that it is again finding war conditions favourable and is on the increase.—ED.]

IN THE KRUGER PARK

SIR.—I was much interested in the article in a recent issue relating to the Kruger National Park. I spent a delightful week in this wonderful game reserve, in the summer of 1938, staying at the camps of Punda Maria, Schingwize and Letaba. I heard a great deal of local criticism as to the management of the Reserve, to the following effect.

The average tourist (whose fees provide the income) is primarily

interested in lions; he loves the thrill of seeing the King of Beasts in its natural habitat; he photographs it from his car, and has something to talk about for the rest of his life. In comparison, antelopes, zebras and giraffes are uninteresting. The authorities, in fact, found that the lions are a great "draw," and allowed their numbers to increase until the balance of nature was upset.

A lioness produces, say, four whelps a year; the average antelope, I believe, only one, or at most two, offspring. An adult lion is said to require one good meal a week—one of the smaller buck, or, it may be,

residents was corroborated by frequent articles and letters in the Press.—C. E. B., *County Wicklow, Eire*.

SAXON SCULPTURE IN WESSEX

SIR.—The angel carving at Winterborne Steepleton, Dorset, illustrated in your Correspondence recently, is astonishingly like the pair of flying angels whose carved figures are high up on the east wall of the nave of the famous little Saxon church at Bradford-on-Avon. The style and general treatment of the Bradford angels is very like the Dorset example, and the date is probably nearly identical.

E 4732 767



Nightman.

A RARE TRADE CARD

See letter: *The Nightman*

half a zebra or half one of the larger antelopes. Assuming their diet to be principally such beasts as duiker, reed-buck, steen-buck and impala, our four cubs when they are grown up will slaughter not fewer than 200 buck a year. Small wonder that as the lions increase, the antelopes speedily decline in numbers.

During my visit I saw specimens of nearly every South African antelope, but always in very small herds or groups. The graceful and athletic impala were the commonest; we saw them everywhere but never in big herds. For the rest the eland, koodoo, water-buck, hartebeeste, wildebeeste, roan, tsessebe, were in pairs or little groups of no more than half a dozen individuals. Even the zebras, which used to gather in immense herds, seldom numbered half a score. The tourists see plenty of lions, but each year the lovely antelopes are fewer and fewer.

As it chanced, I did not personally see a single lion, but their unmistakable spoor was daily seen on every dusty road or path or clearing. The evidence of South African

plates and portraits, and engravings after Sir Joshua Reynolds and other masters. He also designed and engraved, in the manner of this trade card, elegant admission tickets for concerts and public functions. He was appointed engraver to King George III in 1785 and later to the Prince of Wales. Doctors Commons in the Strand, where he had his shop, was later the site of Exeter Hall. It is now the Strand Palace Hotel.

It is a testimony to the universal high standard of all the arts at that time that the trade card of one so employed and "always at the work himself," should have been executed by a skilled craftsman of such standing.—H. CLIFFORD SMITH, *Highclere, near Newbury*.

A USE FOR CHERRY STONES

SIR.—Owing to the rubber shortage, which forbids the rubber hot-water bottle to the general public, may I recommend an excellent substitute? I heard last year of a Swiss custom of using bags filled with dried cherry stones and heated in the oven. It was claimed that these cherry-stone bags hold the heat quite as well as hot-water bottles. I was sceptical, but have experimented and can now testify that these bags are entirely satisfactory, indeed they are preferable to the water-filled bottle, being lighter and more flexible. The difficulty is to procure cherry stones in sufficient quantity. Would it be possible to interest some jam factory in supplying these?—HOUSEHOLDER, *Surry*.

THE BATHING HARE

SIR.—I was not aware until early this year when I was fishing the border Esk that hares enjoyed bathing for its own sake. I heard a considerable splashing in a deep backwater just off the main stream. On looking over I saw that the commotion was caused by a hare swimming around several yards from the bank, and I thought at first that it must be caught by some under-water obstruction, and that the splashing was caused by its struggles to get free. However, on approaching I found I was mistaken because it swam rapidly to the shore and scampered away.

Later on the same day I saw another hare run down to the bank of the river proper and splash about in a few inches of water.

The temperature of the air was 35° and the water 37°.—R. SHAW ADAMS, *Jesmond Cottage, Newcastle-upon-Tyne*.

[The brown hare is certainly not afraid of water. We have watched hares gallop in and out of shallow water in an unconcerned manner, but that a hare would swim for pleasure is very questionable. Possibly the animal seen by our correspondent had been hunted by something or other.—ED.]

CONCERNING THE NIGHTJAR

SIR.—To my satisfaction not very long ago, I was able to make a personal observation of the way in which the nightjar produces the clapping sound so often referred to in natural history books. One morning, at about 11 o'clock, while I was searching for the larvae of certain moths in a small wood, a male nightjar settled on a tree-stump not more than 20ft. from where I stood. Here he uttered his familiar churring love-song. The throat feathers were standing out, the throat distended, and the vibration of the lower mandible was clearly visible.

Apparently indifferent to human observation, the bird continued to call and, at intervals, brought his wings sharply together over his back. The sound produced is describable as a whip-like crack.

After an interval which I

estimated would not exceed two minutes, a female nightjar arrived. I noticed that she lacked the large and prominent white spots on the wings and tail, so characteristic of the male.

As the female bird approached, the male uttered a low, whistling note, and the newcomer responded with a similar sound. She hovered above him for a moment, in a manner reminiscent of the hovering of a kestrel, and was about to descend to the tree-stump when she noticed me. In consequence, she flew away in haste. The male remained on the stump for some short time afterwards, churring, but not clapping his wings, then, still without haste, departed in the direction taken by the female.

Referring to the slapping sound made by the nightjar, the late Mr. Coward stated that he could not believe that "the soft feathers of either this bird or the short-eared owl, which produces a similar note, can make a clapping sound." He believed the sound to be caused in the same way as that produced by a whip-lash. I can state definitely that in the instance just described, the wings came into actual contact over the back.—CLIFFORD W. GREATOREX, *Work of, Nottinghamshire*.

EGG-EATER'S NEST-BOX

SIR.—My father has made a most successful device for collecting eggs straight from the hens, thus preventing them from being eaten, a habit we have found impossible to cure.

We have tried mustard eggs several times, but either our hens are more highly intelligent than others or my mustard eggs are less natural in appearance! Anyway the eggs have been disappearing as fast as they were laid.

The egg-trap was made by removing the original bottom from the nest-boxes altogether, and stretching wire netting there instead, cutting out a circle about 4 ins. by 4 ins. in the centre of each box, and covering this with either a very thin layer of hay, or better still corrugated paper, corrugated side down, and cutting the same sized hole in the middle to correspond with the wire netting. Then we nailed some old canvas—we used old deck-chair seats—along the underside of the nest-boxes, about 2 ins. below the wire at the back, and brought it down to the ground (or if the boxes were high, about 6 ins. from wire netting in front), so that when the egg drops through the hole it is caught on the canvas and rolls down underneath towards a covered shelf, or a well-padded box, in fact anything that will catch it and keep it out of sight of the

(Right) THE BOTTLE GOURD FOR SALE

(Below) THE BOTTLE GOURD ON ITS PLANT

See letter: *Gourd-pots*

hen! We have used this contraption for some time and find it most satisfactory.—J. R., *Bettws-y-Coed, North Wales*.

[Most poultry-keepers think that the best way to deal with the egg-eating hen is to eliminate her, especially as other hens are liable to pick up the bad habit from her.—ED.]

NOAH'S ARK AT LINCOLN

SIR.—Here are two photographs showing sections of a remarkable band of carved panels high above the west doors of Lincoln Cathedral. Depicting a panel on the north side of the west front, one photograph illustrates the



(Above) THE TORMENTS OF THE DAMNED AND (left) THE STORY OF NOAH'S ARK ON LINCOLN CATHEDRAL

See letter: *Noah's Ark at Lincoln*

folk, who resort to simple means of living, are always glad to buy them.—S. V. O. SOMANADER, *Batticaloa, Ceylon*.



Torments of the damned and an alarming picture it is, relieved considerably, however, by the (to us) ludicrous aspects of some of the figures. On the extreme right Christ is seen in Limbo, the vanquished body of Satan stretched before Him.

The other photograph shows a panel on the south side of the west front which illustrates scenes from the story of the Flood. On the extreme left Noah—with the bow of the Ark in the background—is receiving the divine promise, while at the opposite

end of the panel several of the elect seem to have taken up their allotted places in the vessel and others, nicely paired, await their turn to embark. It would be interesting to learn what the remaining framed sculpture in this panel signifies. Probably it is out of place, for the whole series was disarranged in some bygone century.

The sculptures are usually credited to Alexander "the Magnificent" (1123-48), Lincoln's third bishop.—G. B. Wood, *Leeds, Yorkshire*.

THE DANCE OF THE GULLS

SIR.—In reading *Oddities of Natural History* by Eric Parker I have been greatly interested in his record of the dance of partridges, as it is the only thing I have ever heard of at all analogous to something which I witnessed in August, 1941, and which you may possibly think would be of interest to your readers.

I was spending a short holiday with my sister on the coast near the junction of the Devon and Dorset borders, and one evening about 6 p.m. we were lying in a field reading. The field sloped down, from where we were, to the edge of the cliff, forming a slight gully, with a small plantation of trees in the gully.

Our attention was attracted by a particularly vivid rainbow which seemed to rise out of the sea at the edge of the cliff; and as we watched another appeared immediately above the first, making a double bow of quite startling brilliance against the sky, which was grey. The centre of the bow was immediately over the trees mentioned above. At the same time we noticed a large number of gulls (which we had not noticed on the cliff before) collecting in the field just in front of the trees and we wondered whether they were frightened or mesmerised by the brilliant light effect.

They gradually assumed positions in a straight line, all facing in the same direction (facing us, as it happened)—quite quiet and motionless for a few minutes—then a most amazing movement started, one bird from each end of the line coming (walking) to the centre, bowing to each other, and walking back slowly to their own end, their places being taken by other birds which went through the same performance—we said it was exactly like the first movement of "Sir Roger de Coverley." After a few minutes of this, the birds took to the air, immediately above where they had been, and went through another movement which I recollect as being rather like the grand chain in the "Lancers." They wove in and out in a regular pattern, looking most graceful. The whole performance was sufficiently odd in itself to leave us quite certain that it was some sort of ceremony peculiar to gulls. Taken in conjunction with the uncanny brilliance of the double rainbow reflected on sky and on the birds, and general staging effect, one was left with the feeling that one had been watching a particularly beautiful effort at an old-fashioned pantomime transformation scene!

After about three or four minutes in the air the gulls alighted on the grass—not in formation—started squawking, and flew away—much about the time the rainbow started to fade.

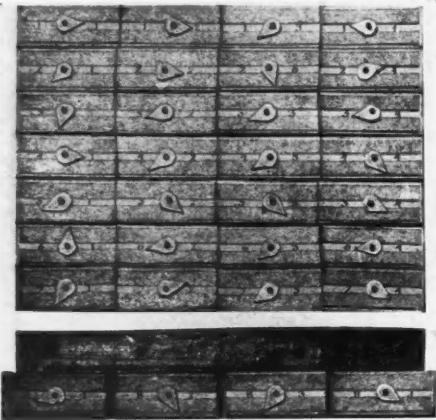
I have asked several people since then if they could throw any light on this amazing performance, but



GOULD-POTS

SIR.—One of the most popular of local vegetables largely cultivated in the semi-dry districts of Ceylon is the bottle gourd (*Lagenaria vulgaris*). The plant is an annual with white flowers about 2½ ins. across, and may be grown on the ground or supported on trellises as in my picture. The fruit is from 16 to 24 ins. long and resembles a decanter or water-bottle (hence the English name). When it is ripe and the pulpy contents have been scooped out to form a palatable but insipid vegetable dish, the hollow fruit-shell is dried in the sun, when it becomes very hard and durable. In this state, village folks commonly make it into a vessel and use it for carrying water or for collecting palm toddy, or storing honey and for other purposes. The other illustration shows a villager carrying to the market a number of these empty gourd-pots for sale. Each receptacle costs about 25 cents (4d.) and so rural





DOES THIS REPRESENT A SQUADRON OF SHIPS?

See letter: *A Strange Mechanical Device*

although no one was able to do so, I have remained certain that it was not just chance that the gulls behaved in this way.—A. S., Exeter, Devon.

A STRANGE MECHANICAL DEVICE

SIR.—I have lately come upon a device which was found, without guidance as to its purpose, among

purpose, and for instruction, in the Navy, though I have not been able to trace another made in this fashion. The likelihood that its purpose was nautical is increased by the fact that its late owner had distinguished naval forbears.—OLIVER WARNER, *The Old Manor Cottage, Haslemere, Surrey*.

BADGERS BY DAY

SIR.—I remember about 40 years ago a badger coming out of Shining Cliff Wood at the bottom of Alderwasley Park, and ambling almost on to Whatstandwell Bridge over the River Derwent. I was playing with other children near by, and when the badger saw us it turned back through the park gate. That was in the middle of the afternoon.—R. COWLINSHAW, *Clapham Common, S.W.4.*

QUEER COMPANIONS

SIR.—I enclose a photograph of Tiger and a friend.

These two were great companions until one day the hedgehog decided it was time he found winter quarters.—H. W. E. BUTCHER, *C.M.F.*

POSTS OR POPLARS?

SIR.—Twenty-one years ago posts were put in the ground by my neighbour for his hen-run. They proved to be poplar posts. One did not grow. The hen-run has now become a delightful part of the garden.—H. G. ROLLS, *Wesley Manse, Appleby, Westmorland.*

BIRDS AND GARAGES

SIR.—Most, if not all, British people are lovers of the fauna of our isles, particularly of our bird life. We eagerly await and look for the return of the migrating birds in spring, the feverish activity of parent birds in early summer, the first notes of the cuckoo or that herald of winter the robin with his bright breast. All these happenings really mean something to us and yet, while willingly we would not harm a single feather, we can and do create tragedy.

During the early part of last summer, as the swallows were returning to their former homes, a friend of mine was delighted to find his garage again blessed with their return. His small child had, the previous year,

been most interested and learned a great deal about the life of swallows at such close quarters as the corner of a garage. However, circumstances compelled the family to leave home for some months, and very naturally, the house and garage were securely locked and bolted. In due time they returned and—here is the tragedy—the child immediately went to the nest and, to her horror, discovered the mother bird dead. She was sitting the eggs and had apparently died of starvation, for when the garage was locked the birds' only entrance and exit was closed.

I am indebted to Lieutenant Commander R. T. Gould, R.N., for the suggestion that it was perhaps made for the use of an admiral in working out manœuvres of squadrons. It may well have been made on shipboard, and seems at least a century old, possibly more. Each piece has a pointer roughly in the shape of a vessel and painted light blue. This can be turned at will to represent the effect of the wind.

Although this suggestion as to its original purpose is tentative, other naval officers to whom it has been shown are inclined to agree that it is likely. Devices in metal have of course long been in use for a similar purpose, and for instruction, in the Navy, though I have not been able to trace another made in this fashion. The likelihood that its purpose was nautical is increased by the fact that its late owner had distinguished naval forbears.—OLIVER WARNER, *The Old Manor Cottage, Haslemere, Surrey*.

THE BEAMSLEY HOSPITAL

SIR.—Recent references in COUNTRY LIFE to Lady Anne Clifford prompt me to send you the enclosed pictures of Beamsley Hospital—a curious little building on the Blubberhouses road, near Bolton Bridge, Yorkshire.

An old inscription over the gateway states: "This almshouse was founded by that excellent Lady Margaret Russell, Countess of Cumberland, wife of George Clifford, third Earl of Cumberland, 1593, and was more perfectly finished by her only child, the Lady Anne Clifford, Countess Dowager of Pembroke, Dorset, and Montgomery. God's name be praised."

It is a circular building about 30 ft. in diameter. The centre is taken up with a tiny church, lighted from the roof, with pews to seat nine people. Seven cosy rooms radiate from it, each occupied by a worthy woman, one of whom acts as "mother" to the house. Of the seven rooms, five have their entrance doors in the chapel so that the occupiers must go through the chapel to enter and leave them. The door shown in the photograph gives entrance to the room of the Mother. The ladies, both widows and spinsters, have their own furniture and appear to vie with one another in the neatness and cosiness of their bed-sitting rooms.

The three pews each seat three people. There are two low forms for use if the number at the service should be greater than nine. A good mains radio was installed by a benefactor a few years ago with extension speakers to each room.

Services are held regularly twice a week—one recently being taken by the Bishop of Ripon. When I called one Sunday afternoon and requested permission to view, the Mother mentioned that the service was about to commence and pressed me to stay. I was glad I did so. To be one of a company of eight in such a tiny church which owes its origin to the effects of the Reformation was a memorable experience.—J. A. CARPENTER, *Harrogate, Yorkshire.*

ANCIENT COOKING VESSELS

SIR.—Years ago, being much at excavations of a Roman city, I thought how interesting it would be to write on the domestic life of Romans in Britain, but I had to give up the idea for lack of practical information. At the onset I could get no information about how and what the Romans cooked; no reliable information about the table arrangements.

At Wroxeter I saw a whole pile of Samian plates, and often museums contain fragments of lovely glass. Had they any forks or spoons, or did they use their fingers?

From kitchen middens we know

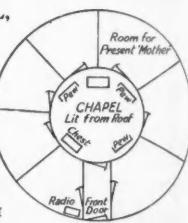


BEAMSLEY HOSPITAL,
1593, BUILT BY LADY
ANNE CLIFFORD
AND HER MOTHER

(Right) A PLAN OF THE
HOSPITAL

(Below) INSIDE THE
CENTRAL CHAPEL

See letter: *The Beamsley Hospital*



they ate animals and birds and fruits and berries, and they probably cooked on charcoal stones or braziers. Did they have domestic animals? Perhaps some of your readers can solve these problems.—G. E. COPE, *Finchampstead Place, Berkshire.*

IRIS STYLOSA

SIR.—In answer to Mr. Barcroft (COUNTRY LIFE, May 12) I think *Iris stylosa* flowers in Algiers in the early winter. I know that with right treatment it will flower in England continuously from November to April, and the right treatment is: starve, pinch and bake it.—DOROTHY HASTINGS, *Wincombe Park, Shaftesbury, Dorset.*

SIR.—In answer to Mr. Barcroft's query, during a visit to Algeria in February, 1939, I found *Iris stylosa* in flower about the middle of that month. It was growing in open woodland on a mountain side.—COLLINGWOOD INGRAM, *Conservative Club, St. James's Street, S.W.1.*



THE POST THAT DID NOT GROW

See letter: *Posts or Poplars?*



200 years ago

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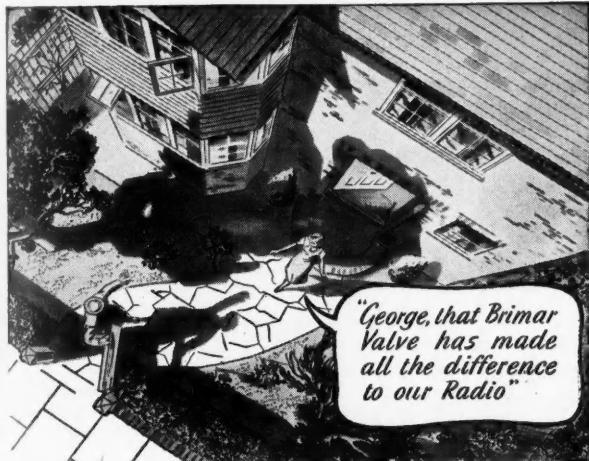
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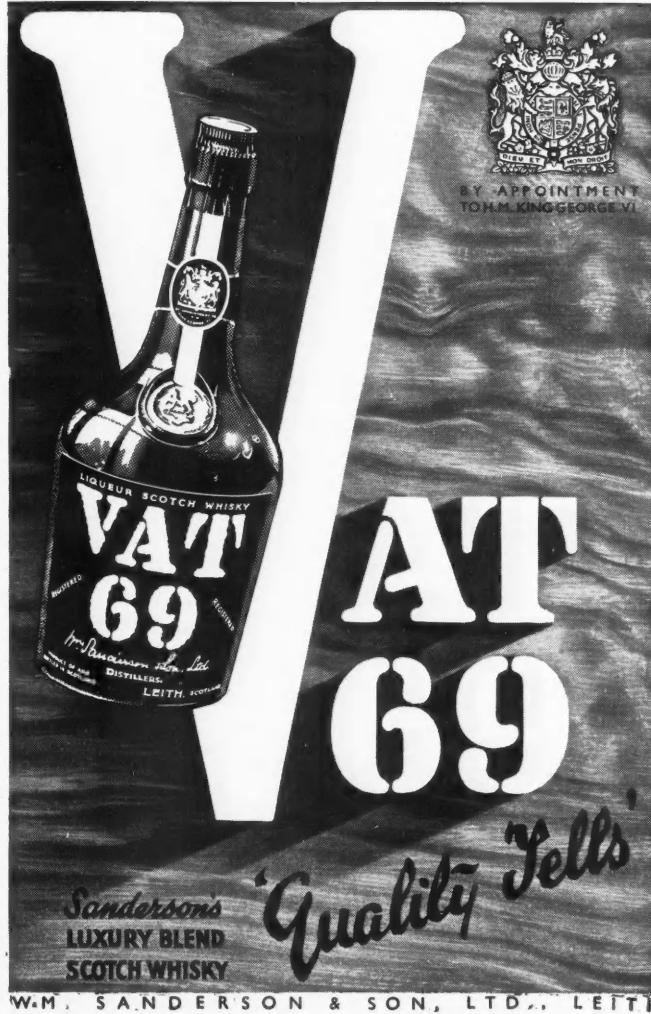


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FARMING NOTES

THE MINISTRY AND THE COUNCILS

HAVING established its régime firmly through the War Agricultural Committees, the Ministry of Agriculture now seems intent on absorbing several of the agricultural functions of the county councils and rural district councils. This is evident from two measures which have lately been before the House of Commons. One is the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, which among other things transfers the agricultural advisory service from the county councils to the Ministry, and the other is the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Bill, which takes the supervision of cowhouses and equipment of dairy farms away from the rural district councils and hands it over to the Ministry. This may seem a natural enough development of the system of control exercised on the Ministry's behalf by the War Agricultural Committees. In war-time this system has worked well. The Ministry has been able to recruit responsible farmers with experience to serve on these committees, and they have given their time and experience freely. It is by no means certain that the quality of voluntary service can be maintained indefinitely after the war. Patriotism becomes tired after a time when the urge of war-time necessity has passed. Then the whole system will presumably be in the hands of officials of the Ministry. How good they will be depends much on the conditions of service.

* * *

THE cold winds and frosts of May have written off our hopes of enough fruit to ease the jam ration next winter. Many housewives who in the last few years have made a good quantity of jam themselves are feeling as depressed as the farmer who sees his grass stunted. The hay crop will be extremely light in many districts, even where a top dressing of nitrogen was given according to official advice. The young leys have kept growing better than the old pastures but there will not be a heavy cut anywhere. Perhaps I should mention one exception and that is a water meadow which I passed the other day where the grass was growing up quite lush despite the cold nights.

* * *

THE spring-sown barley and oats do not look happy in many fields. The plants are altogether too spindly and with some of the leaves showing brown and purple discolouration, the young crops need several days of warm rain to put them right. The winter wheat which was strongly established has come through Arctic May better than the other crops. Where wheat was undersown in March with grass and clover seeds, there has been a fair take and the top growth of wheat has given some shelter, but the seeds sown in April and May have had little chance. This dispensation is particularly unfortunate this season when we were hoping to get an increase in the acreage of young leys established. Yet Nature has a way of compensating for her harshness and I am among the optimists who still look for a good harvest.

* * *

WHEN Mr. Tom Johnston, the Secretary of State for Scotland, was given the freedom of the City of Edinburgh he said that his favourite character in ancient history had come to be Cincinnatus, the Roman Proconsul who after his victories insisted upon vacating his high office and retiring to his small farm by the banks of the Tiber. I am delighted to be in such good company.

* * *

IT is good news that the attested herd scheme is to be opened to other than dairy herds. At the moment the only door of entry to the scheme is through the T.T. scheme and the T.T. scheme is limited to milk production. From what Mr. Hudson said, I judge that it is the intention to allow others who are not milking to qualify for the attested licence. They will not get any assistance from the Government with the preliminary testing of their cattle, nor will they get any bonus. The advantage they will get is that they will have attested cattle which can be sold direct into attested dairy herds. At the present time a good many milk producers are coming into the attested scheme, but they are finding great difficulty in recruiting young stock to take the



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TELEGRAMS: TRACTORS, HATFIELD

MR. TOM JOHNSTON has earned golden opinions as Scotland's administrator. He has thought for himself and not been afraid to act courageously to forward Scotland's interests. Some of his predecessors in office were little more than cogs in the British Government machine. Under Mr. Tom Johnston's leadership Scotland has regained independence of outlook and Edinburgh has become more of a capital city than for many years past. Moreover he never forgets the great importance of agriculture to Scotland, and when the interests of English agriculture clash with those of Scottish agriculture he generally manages to get a fair deal for Scotland in national policy. **CINCINNATUS.**

THE ESTATE MARKET

INCREASED SELLING TENDENCY

THE prospect of post-war avenues of investment, and the need in many cases to cut into capital for meeting various liabilities, may be expected to intensify a tendency already visible, to realise real estate. In addition a certain amount of property is coming into the market at the instance of owners who, having held it for years, or having bought it to advantage more recently, are disposed to take a cash profit, and there are others who are tired of the trouble of holding house property that yields hardly any income, or shops that yield nothing at all.

However much they may wish or need to realise some classes of property in order to defray current expenses, the would-be vendors find that there is not quite the same degree of eagerness as there was a few months ago on the part of people with money to jump at any and every offer of realty. Other openings are available, and ordinary commercial investments have shown an increasing steadiness and strength that equal or outweigh the advantage generally claimed for realty, of tangibility and permanence.

BUYING EDGE BLUNTED

IN short, the buying edge is losing a little of its keenness, and it is not altogether regrettable, for with a fuller supply a freer market may be anticipated, and in due course a closer approximation to pre-war normality. Meanwhile, apart from profit-taking offers, there is a continuing inflow to the market of large and small lots which must be sold to enable the payment of death duties. This type of sale affords substantial and often tempting opportunities to persons or corporations with free capital.

The general trend of the market is firm and encouraging, but it would be idle to deny that a good many owners, both individual and corporate, are far from satisfied as they look at their accounts, and they are not likely to see an improvement until the problems of war damage, re-planning and re-construction, and rent restriction have been solved. There is growing impatience at the delay in arriving at any definite decisions, and considerable misgiving at the extent to which private rights seem to be regarded as the rightful perquisite of public authorities, existing or to be created.

HINCHINGBROOKE'S FUTURE
THE EARL OF SANDWICH has settled the Huntingdonshire estate, Hinchingbrooke, on his son, Viscount Hinchingbrooke, M.P., and the latter's son, John. The Earl is nearly 70 years of age. The gateway, built by the Cromwells, relatives of the notorious Minister in the reign of Henry VIII, was one of the many illustrations in COUNTRY LIFE (April 6 and 13, 1929) of a special article on Hinchingbrooke. In 1627 Sir Sidney Montagu bought the estate, and his son, the first Earl of Sandwich, cousin and patron of Samuel Pepys, enlarged the mansion. Pepys often visited the property, and in 1667 he recorded that he found "the house is most excellently furnished and brave rooms and good pictures, so that it do please me infinitely beyond Audley End." Later the Earl consulted Pepys as to the improvement of the gardens.

FARMING AND MINERAL RIGHTS

RECENT observation does not allow the present writer to speak with certainty of one aspect of mining that must have struck most people who have visited mining areas, namely, the waste of good timber

involved in the slow but relentless extension of the heaps of waste material across land in the vicinity of pits. Before the war it seemed to be nobody's business or interest to cut and remove not only underwood but often well-matured trees, which were gradually buried under the advancing waste to form perhaps a fossilised problem for geologists of some remote future. In some districts in the last few years a great deal of thought has been given to the disposal of mining waste. It has not been allowed to spread unregulated, and the surfaces have shown successful attempts at cultivation. Actually there need be no inconsistency between mining and farming, and the fact that minerals such as ironstone underlie land adds to the market value of a freehold. This is the case with the Upton estate of nearly a square mile, near Banbury, now privately for sale by Messrs. Bidwell and Sons. The property includes Uplands House and 14 acres of grounds, and five farms, and the rents amount to £660 a year, free of tithe and land tax. As a rule, for example, in Kent, where valuable coal-mining rights exist, they are reserved to mining companies and excluded from the sale of the surface. That makes no real difference to the average owner, who could not get the coal if it were unreserved, but to win ironstone is another matter, and may yield a good income without interference with more than a small part of a property. While on this point it may be mentioned that the undoubtably rich beds of ironstone in the Weald of Kent and Sussex ceased to be worked mainly because of the lack of enough fuel. Of course, too, the smelted product could not compete with the works which came into operation in the northern mining country. But Wealden mineral rights are seldom emphasised in present-day offers.

"FOR THE DURATION"

THE long-drawn controversy about the meaning and validity of leases "for the duration of the war" seems yet a long way from finality. In the first instance the particular form of words "for the duration" gained currency through agreements of tenancy drafted by house-agents, or owners and tenants who did that costly thing, act as one's own lawyer. It is an elementary essential of any tenancy agreement that it must specify the exact term of tenure, that is to say, supposing it mentions three years from a certain date, any extension must be subject to a defined period of notice by either party. If not the agreement is void for want of precision. Oddly enough that point seems to have been ignored, even in some of the contested cases, the arguments turning more on whether "for the duration" implied for the period of open hostilities, or for the period ending with an "Official Declaration" of the end of the war. There might be, in fact there is sure to be, a wide interval between the "cease fire" and the "Official Declaration." But the side issue thus arising found a further refinement, namely, did the war mean the European conflict or also that in the Pacific zone? So great is the number of agreements that are void, pursuant to the decision lately recorded in these columns, that the Law Officers of the Crown are considering whether legislation is necessary to rectify matters. Meanwhile persons who are contemplating a claim against agents for damages for alleged negligence in allowing them to enter into the voidable agreements, may think it worth while to "wait and see."

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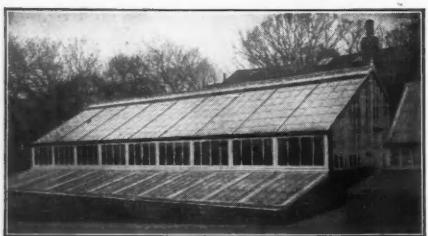


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NEW BOOKS

THE FUTURE OF THE LAND

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

GILBERT once suggested that "when every one is somebody, then no one's anybody!" In the same way it might be said that when everything is everyone's then nothing's anybody's. And is it desirable that this should be so? Supposing, for example, that in a sudden access of resentment because a few people own a small enclosed green in a London square we decide to tear down the railings so that the patch of land shall be everybody's. If we may go on the result of the experiments so far made in this

in this book. Mr. Massingham, with quite a rising "school" of others who claim that their opinions are founded on experience flatly denies that large fields and artificial feeding produce the results claimed for them. *For a time*, they say, startling crops may be grown, but in the long run, and not so long as all that, the earth turns a sick stomach to this food of the gods, rejects it utterly, and fails to give even its normal yield.

Another point made by Mr. Massingham and his fellow-advocates of a return to "natural" as opposed

THIS PLOT OF EARTH. By H. J. Massingham (Collins, 12s. 6d.)

THE ARK. By Phyllis Kelway (Jenkins, 15s.)

SING HIGH! SING LOW! By Sir Osbert Sitwell (Macmillan, 10s. 6d.)

FLEET STREET BLITZKRIEG DIARY. By Gordon Robbins (Benn, 5s.)

direction, the patch of land quickly becomes nobody's, because it ceases to exist. A loathly quad, trodden to the harshness of cement, takes its place; and where the person who did not "own" it had the joy of its greenness, could savour of a summer's evening the emanation from this little heart of peace, he now joins the former "owners" in getting what fun he may out of another plot of earth gone for ever.

RESPONSIBLE OWNERSHIP

It is an important question, because it marks the division between those who think that public ownership of the land is the best way of going about things, and those who think that we were better off when many people owned a little land—that is, before the Enclosures—and that the sooner we get back to small responsible ownership the better—the better for the people and for the land itself. This latter view is held by Mr. H. J. Massingham and is expounded in his book *This Plot of Earth* (Collins, 12s. 6d.).

"My plot and its region are in their turn a representative piece of all England, the real England which is not the ephemeral England of today." Many people, no doubt, will resent the view that the England of today is ephemeral. To leave aside altogether the immense strides of industry, they will say, "Is not our agriculture on a sounder footing than ever before? Are we not hacking down the hedges that cumbered the land and thus making possible large units of cultivation—a blackboard on which we can work out scientific formulae rather than the old-time chessboard with its alternate dark woods and sunny spaces, its rooks, doubtless with trees, bishops, doubtless with a spiritual idea or two, kings and queens and matings? Why mating? We shall soon get over all that with artificial insemination, and we shall not wait, either, for wind, rain and sunshine, rotting leaves and what not to inseminate the soil. We shall do that with artificial manures. Aren't all these things done in the U.S.A.?"

That, roughly, is the idea which stands opposed to the ideas expressed

to "scientifically-doped" agriculture is that crops grown on "artificials" are not so good either for man or beast as those grown on land manured with nothing but what came out of the land, and that the great increase in animal diseases of late is to be attributed to this cause.

The whole matter is full of questions that demand answer. What effect have birds on agriculture? And what effect has all our hedge-grubbing and tree-felling on birds? It was actually while I was writing this article that the mail brought me a letter from Australia containing this passage: "Before petrol rationing made such jaunts impossible, my sister and I were motoring through some of our richest South Australian wheat-growing districts. Fine homesteads dotted here and there bespoke wealth and luxury. It was truly a pleasing prospect, but no birds sang. Mile after mile the rich land had been denuded of trees so that more and more acres might be brought under cultivation and the State 'developed.' The birds fled. Now these wealth-laden farmers are planting again—at least around their homesteads, but the birds are gone."

BACK TO HEDGES

In America, too, says Mr. Massingham, "back to hedges" is a word of the moment; and last year the U.S.A. Government *Journal* printed an article on *Soil Conservation* which says that "if we are to survive" (strong words, surely) artificial manures must give place to the immemorial habit of putting back into the soil its own decayed products.

All these considerations arise in the course of a book which is rooted in the author's own garden patch. It is a book which, as they say, "has everything" so far as country life is concerned. Beauty and use go hand in hand and piety towards the earth informs every page. It is not a book of theories: it is a book of experience: the story of how a man with a patch of earth at his disposal came slowly to realise his responsibilities to it, and to read, through this small personal instance, the wide lesson of the right

co-operative attitude to Demeter the Mother.

A country book of quite another sort, but readable enough, is Phyllis Kelway's *The Ark* (Jenkins, 15s.). Miss Kelway and two friends moved together, soon after the war started, into the house called the Ark, which had 2½ acres of land. Each of them had a job to do, but nevertheless, with Miss Kelway as the leader, they embarked on the war-time task of using their land for the raising of stock. Poultry, rabbits and goats were their chief concern, and this is the simple story of their work day by day. Miss Kelway gives us nothing of her reaction—if she had any—to the social and philosophic implications of what she was doing. She is content to tell what she did. "Whimsy" here and there waves its (to me) loathly wing over the pages, but on the whole the author has made a good job of the book, as she did of the farm.

PERFECT PROPORTION

Sing High! Sing Low! is a book of essays by Sir Osbert Sitwell (Macmillan, 10s. 6d.). Some occupy but a few pages, some are of considerable length, but none is too long or too short. This author, who knows so well what he wants to say, is not least an artist in knowing precisely how long to take in saying it.

He is at his best in dealing with a matter that permits a high degree of elaboration. "Elaborate" is the word I would choose to describe his method; and elaborate I take to mean springing from a conscious and loving care rather than, as it is sometimes said, as if this were a virtue, "thrown off." (Mr. Robin Ironside has a good word on this when he says of Wilson Steer's water-colours: "Not all of these possess that felicity of utterance without which a spontaneity is of no avail.")

Spontaneous is the last word one would use to describe the more important of these essays. The long, balanced, coloured sentences are applied to the body of the theme with at once a grace and precision that will enchant anyone who is sensitive to the appeal of English writing. They may begin by being about nothing in particular: a cigar-band or a liqueur bottle: but from their starting-point they are apt to take you to strange lands and old enchantments. There is scarcely a thought in them; their appeal is sensual, and it is significant that one of them is upon *The Eye Within the Ear*. They have themselves the ability to stir sense within sense.

AUTHORS AND CHARITY

My only quarrel with Sir Osbert arises out of the essay *What It Feels Like to be an Author*. Like many another before him, he derides the people who "never think twice before demanding from an author, almost with menaces, a signed copy of one or more of his works: though at the same time he is expected to pay his taxes and contribute in the ordinary way to deserving objects." And, of course, there follows the inevitable complaint that these charity-hounds never ask a fishmonger for a piece of fish.

The fact is that there is a widespread, if erroneous, belief that an author is a more important person than a fishmonger, and that a book is an almost mystic thing, not to be mentioned in the same breath as a piece of fish. (Though how many books which litter my desk at this moment would I not exchange for a brill, sole or turbot!) It is to the advantage of authors to maintain rather than deprecate this public illusion. There was a time when they

did so, when they wisely maintained a no-man's-land between themselves and those who might find them out. Now they babble in "Brains Trusts," display their charms at cocktail parties, sit under spotlights at popular luncheons, and read their poems in public.

And, to crown all, Sir Osbert Sitwell now asks that these beings, once regarded as but a step in composition from immortals, should be judged by the same standards as fishmongers! And why not? The fishmonger would come well out of the comparison. If no one hitherto has asked him for a few red mullet to give warmth to the frigidity of a charity stall, this is only because imagination has not risen above the pedantry of printed pages. No fishmonger, I imagine, would hesitate to autograph a few cod steaks if asked to do so in a good cause. Let us end this curmudgeonly talk. If refuse we must when asked for our books, let us refuse with grace, recognising the compliment that has been paid us, and humbly asking whether we have deserved it.

CITY BLITZ

Mr. Gordon Robbins, who is chairman of the publishing firm of Benn Brothers, has written *Fleet Street Blitzkrieg Diary* (Benn, 5s.). Messrs. Benn's premises, Bouverie House, stand in the very midst of Fleet Street and were therefore in the very midst of the bombing during the Battle of Britain. Mr. Robbins began in September, 1940, to keep a diary, setting down day by day how the affairs of his firm and the lives of those who worked for it were affected by this visitation, and he continued this record until August, 1941.

Necessarily, there is nothing to be said that is not already known concerning the disasters of that time; but the service that Mr. Robbins has done (for the first time, so far as I know) is in giving us the battle not as it affected an individual and not as it affected the community, but as it affected a busy commercial enterprise in its day-to-day effort to get its job done, come what might.

For this reason, Mr. Robbins's book has value not only for the records of his firm, which was the first intention, but for anyone who may hereafter seek a picture of a business "carrying on" in the front line.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL G. H. BADCOCK'S book (*The Care of Domestic Animals*, Herbert Jenkins, 7s. 6d.) on the care of dogs, should be in the hands of all who keep a dog, for it contains not only a lot of useful information but much plain sense about rearing, feeding, training and general management. Common sense, alas! is one of the things often lacking in the dog-owner, with lamentable results for dog and person. Witness in this connection the way we often see a dog, that has failed to heed its master's call, punished when it does come back to heel. Naturally next time the dog is still more reluctant to come to heel. The author stresses the need for justice in dealing with dogs and points out that you should only punish a dog when you catch him in the act of wrong-doing. His notes on the different breeds are most practical and helpful; indeed the book is full of excellent information. Only one fault is to be found and that is in the title, which refers to "Domestic Animals," a very far-reaching field, including among others horses, pigs and cats, whereas, except for a passing remark or two, Colonel Badcock confines himself to the dog. But perhaps this was a slip. What the book does deal with, and most admirably, is the care of the dog.

F. P.



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PHOTOGRAPHS DERMOT CONOLLY

Multi-coloured flowers touched with emerald green foliage cover Debenham and Freebody's printed crepe that has a folded bodice and gauged sleeves

(Right) Walpole's gay dirndl frock has a hand-blocked linen skirt with flights of white and black swallows all over a pink ground and a black blouse with gauged sleeves. On the other frock black flowers are massed on a broad band running down the front of an ice blue crepe frock with a jabot. Debenham and Freebody

HERE are some charming hot-weather frocks about this summer, deceptively simple of line, for, though their tubular skirts could not be plainer, bodices are intricately cut, folded, gauged, gathered and box-pleated. Colours are clear and incisive. Two-colour printed rayons, and there are numbers of them, are bold in design, making up for the simplicity of their colouring by the vivacity of their design. Florals in brilliant mixed colours make another handsome group of frocks; so do the suits in neat tailored patterns. Flashes of ice and turquoise blues and a lively emerald green stand out among the printed designs; cyclamen and salmon pinks and a clear sky blue among the plain rayons. There are, as well, cool-looking black and white printed marocains—a white starred with black daisy heads at Strassner's, a black printed with trails of white ivy leaves at Hartnell's, a white with a graceful pattern of daisy-heads at Debenham and Freebody's that looks as though it has been done by brushwork. This has a skirt with a full apron front and a plain top and is the perfect frock for a hot day, worn with a white or black hat, white crochet bag and gloves. A gay confetti-dotted black crepe at Debenham's has a short-sleeved jacket to match and narrow twin candy pink belts. They show a



June Weather

number of dresses in more elaborate printed effects, some in pure silk, made from pre-war patterns now becoming rare, of which they still hold stocks.

Hand-blocked linens at Walpole's have full skirts, either one-piece frocks, or a blouse with a dirndl skirt. Patterns are lively and large, colours gay as they can be and four or five mixed in one design—those with ice-blue grounds being particularly pretty. Dirndls have gathered skirts in a bold print with wide studded waistbands and a dark plain blouse top. Or the dirndl may be in check gingham—grass-green and crimson, or yellow, orange and brown with a plain white peasant blouse. These are charming for young people. Without a hat they look completely rustic; with a rather sophisticated wide-brimmed straw in the Ascot tradition they look right for lunch in town. The same, of course, goes for what has become one of the great stand-bys of the war-time wardrobe—the tailored jumper suit in hopsack rayons. Salmon pink is having a considerable success this summer for these jumper suits in thick rayons. It has not been seen for several years and looks very well with brown or pigskin accessories. But the suits in bright sky blues are still the winners. A pretty pale

No,
on
hip
sup
near
eve

All
issu

This suit which Hershelle have designed for you
Is made in black and trimmed ice-blue—
(You can choose other contrasts, too),
You'll like to have it up your sleeve
For smart occasions, such as "leave,"
For dancing, lunching, dining, tea
You'll find it perfect company!

Hershelle MODEL

... look for the name HERSHELLE on the label.

AH! REVERE ISN'T ONE

GOR-RAY

Skirts

No, there isn't any placket! No buttons or other fasteners on the hips to cause bulkiness or spoil the symmetry of the hip line. The now fashionable 'ZWOW' man-style pocket supersedes the old style placket and provides the neatest of neat fasteners on the waistband. Good drapers and stores everywhere stock 'GOR-RAY' Skirts in a wide variety of attractive styles featuring the 'ZWOW.'

All the better for the 'Zwow' Pocket

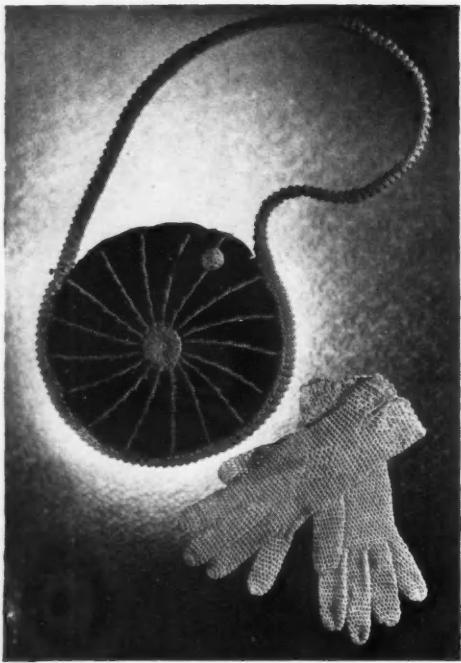
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Crochet bag in navy and cherry red in starfish pattern and hand-crocheted gloves in string colour.
Marshall and Snelgrave

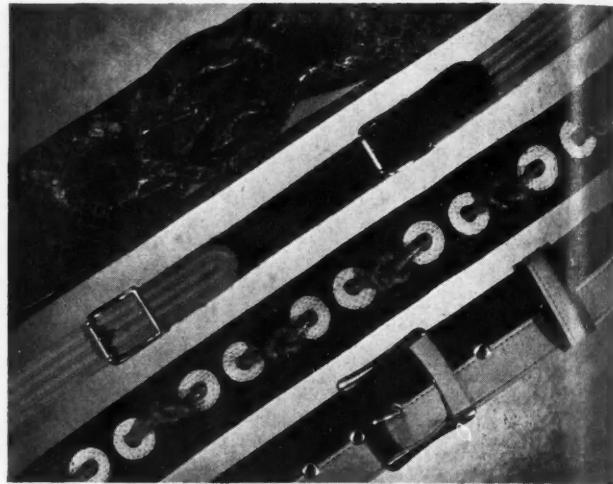
blue suit has the usual big pockets and a navy and white spot collar. Another, by Rima, in navy and string colour, has the string-colour shoulder yoke continuing as a band along the top of the short sleeves. A belt of the string colour is inlet and extended in front each side as a V running into the pockets. This makes a very chic town outfit; so does the suit by Jersey-de-Luxe which has a longish jacket in black

Moygashel printed with large emerald dots that is cut like a woollen suiting with a rather pinched-in waistline and worn over a tube of a skirt in black with a black box-pleated dickey front. This would make a perfect suit for dining out in town on a hot evening, worn with a sophisticated black turban and all black accessories. There are collarless jumper suits galore fastening down the front, with a narrow band of a second colour outlining the throat and continuing down each side as a facing to the front. A warm beige with a russet brown is a popular combination and looks smart with one of the toast-coloured chip straws which Miss Block of Scott's is showing this summer. These bright warm browns match up to the brown shoes; black and navy shoes are in short supply.

FOR the summer jumper suits and tailor-mades there are tiny sailors with rounded brims rolling gently upwards in coarse chip straws. These are laden with bright mixed field flowers, or with tight posies of different tiny flowers, poppies, daisies, cornflowers, pansies and so on, placed all round the crown. They are the prettiest and gayest of hats, charming with the very plain, rather bright-coloured jumper suits, and with town tailor-mades in dark smooth black or navy cloth or corded silk. They also look well with the new style pinafore frock which is emerging this year as a

focus of style interest. This is really a short-sleeved chemise frock that is slit down the front so that it can be worn with a bright vest and revers of printed silk or white piqué with more of the second colour piping the sleeves. A navy dress in a fine woollen with a cherry-coloured silk vest is worn with a tiny round navy straw matted with bright mixed blossoms. These pinafore frocks often have a long-sleeved woollen cardigan that buttons over so that the merest touch of bright silk or white piqué shows at the throat where the revers are pulled out over the cardigan jacket. Rima shows these suits in very fine woollen suiting in the almost invisible over-checks of a man's tropical suiting.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS.



Belts (top to bottom):—wide fuchsia-coloured snakeskin; scarlet cord with indigo blue front; black grained leather, white circles and a cherry leather knotted cord; rose beige and indigo stitched calf.
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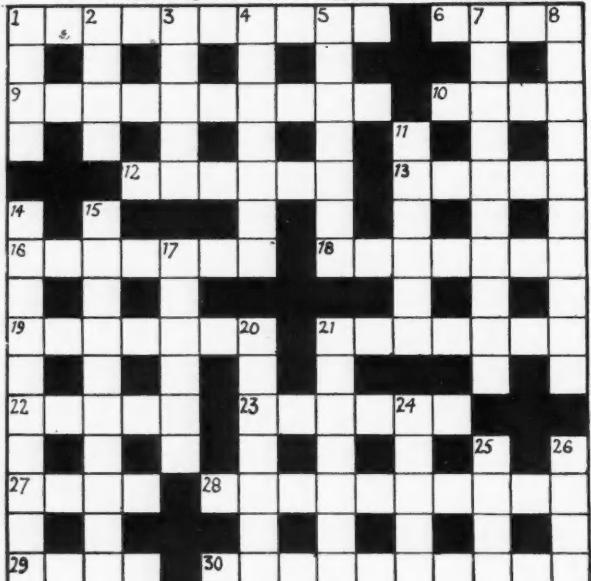
"A Sparkling Performance"—Daily Paper
"A Queen of the Foot-Lights"—Weekly Press

PROPERT'S
SHOE CREAM

CROSSWORD No. 749

Two guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 749, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2" not later than the first post on Thursday, June 8, 1944.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name (Mr., Mrs., etc.)
Address

SOLUTION TO No. 748. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of May 26, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Cock a doodle doo; 9, Sindbad; 10, Frantic; 11, Oboe; 12, Snore; 14, Gnaw; 17, Settle; 19, Raisin; 20, Oatmeal; 21, Factor; 23, Mimosa; 25, Ivry; 26, Ostia; 29, Weed; 32, Ebb tide; 33, Ingrain; 34, Turn of the Screw. DOWN.—1, Customs officer; 2, Concoct; 3, Albs; 4, Olden; 5, Defter; 6, Eras; 7, Octants; 8, Ice, wind and snow; 13, Outmost; 15, Sloop; 16, Valid; 18, Ear; 19, Ram; 22, Caribou; 24, Open air; 27, Sheaf; 28, Irish; 30, Lion; 31, Eggs.

ACROSS.

1. "He also serves," though speechless! (4, 6)
6. Nothing at all (4)
9. All but titled attendants? (5, 5)
10. Count in German (4)
12. Give oneself up to (6)
13. The kind of essay to ensure a good fit? (3, 2)
16. One leg in school, anyway! (7)
18. He began as infantry and became cavalry (7)
19. Out of date (7)
21. Lo, reach! (anagr.) (7)
22. "How sleep the —, who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest."
—Collins (5)

DOWN.

1. Fruity bit of the calendar (4)
2. Time to produce the widow's portion (4)
3. It's wild round the East (5)
4. Fancy (7)
5. Thrown out (7)
7. One of the conditions, we are told, for becoming healthy, wealthy and wise (5, 2, 3)
8. Or, right and left side (3, 3, 4)
11. Don't be so tart, servant of Brutus! (6)
14. Piecemeal literature? Not necessarily for salvage, though (10)
15. Pick England's flower (5, 1, 4)
17. Rubbed out (6)
20. Lit up within the case in Spain (7)
21. Full up (7)
24. One of Thackeray's not-so-nice people (1, 4)
25. Festivity (4)
26. Wrong side to march, Caesar! Beware! (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 747 is

The Earl of Ypres,
The Old Court House,
Hampton Court.

Pomeroy

still serves
Beauty

She walks in beauty
like the night

Of cloudless climes
and starry skies;

And all that's best
of dark and bright

Meet in her aspect
and eyes

BYRON



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32/7

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Walpoles

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Designed by the White House



THIS elegant
and most be-
coming Barri
maternity en-
semble from
the White
House, is in
navy moss
crepe, trimmed
ice blue. The
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